



Annual Report for FY 2001

Houston Center for Quality of Care & Utilization Studies

Houston Veterans Affairs Medical Center

2002 Holcombe Boulevard (152), Houston, Texas 77030

HSR&D Project # HFP 90-020

Carol M. Ashton, MD, MPH, Director

2001 Annual Report

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1 Executive Summary

**Annual Report for FY2001
(October 1, 2000 – September 30, 2001)
Houston Center for Quality of Care and Utilization Studies
Houston VA Medical Center
2002 Holcombe Blvd (152)
Houston, Texas 77030
Carol M. Ashton, MD, MPH, Director**

Since its inception in 1990, the Houston Center for Quality of Care and Utilization Studies has exceeded the expectations of VA and other health organizations by providing insightful research on quality management and return on investment in the healthcare industry. Throughout its history, the Houston Center has remained a hotbed for developing the careers of health services researchers and for obtaining support for this effort from VA, NIH, and foundations. Our researchers are frequently cited in the most recognized health services publications and our efforts continue to impact national policy and healthcare practice in America.

Under the leadership of Carol M. Ashton MD, MPH, the Center of Excellence has continued to grow. The Center is built around the concept of research team leaders. A research team leader is a doctoral-level investigator who is recruited with the explicit expectation that s/he will pursue a personal research agenda, obtain external funding to support that agenda, publish research results in scientific journals, serve in leader/mentor roles, and progress up the academic ladder at Baylor College of Medicine, the Center's primary academic affiliate.

The Center has moved across the street from the Houston VA Medical Center campus in the former Nabisco building. The move is the culmination of 2 years of diligent work on the part of the Center's executive team and represents a significant achievement in partnership between the VA and Baylor College of Medicine. The Houston VAMC, and consequently the Center, remains a member institute of the Texas Medical Center and a primary health care provider for more than 70,000 veterans in the Houston metropolitan area and around the country.

Center Mission

The Houston Center for Quality of Care and Utilization Studies, a Department of Veterans Affairs Health Services Research and Development Center of Excellence, conducts research that advances knowledge about quality, access, utilization, and costs of health care. While recognizing the significance of all our stakeholders, the Center's interdisciplinary team members contribute new knowledge that can be used to improve the quality and efficiency of the health care system; train new researchers and conduct research that is highly regarded and influential; and disseminate information to decision makers so our research has an impact on healthcare policy and practice.

The Center's investigators conduct research that systematically examines the impact of the organization, management and financing of health care services on the delivery, quality, cost, utilization and outcomes of care. These research areas are well suited to analysis using large institutional databases, one of the Center's areas of particular methodological expertise. A distinguishing feature of the Center's research is the focus not just upon quality or utilization alone, but also upon the relation between quality of care and utilization of health services. Center investigators employ qualitative as well as quantitative research methods and make use of the entire range of study designs in research involving primary data collection.

Overview of FY01

The Center's accomplishments during FY01 include:

- A total of 16 new VA grants and contract awards, 8 VA Career Development Awards, 1 Cooperative Studies Awards, 2 NIH Research Scientist Awards, the Office of Academic

Affiliations Associated Health Professions Post-doctoral Fellowship Program, 7 Federal non-VA projects, 13 private foundation projects, and 7 pharmaceutical corporate contracts

- The publication of 70 journal articles, 7 book chapters, 40 “in-press” articles, 93 Conference presentations/abstracts, and 8 reports. A total of 218 dissemination products by agency staff
- Four new research team leaders and 4 post-doctoral fellows
- Acquisition and move into our new 25,000 square foot office space at the Nabisco Building in the Texas Medical Center
- Celebration of our Center’s tenth anniversary
- Impact on VA and non-VA health care systems
- Initiation and development of the Center of Excellence in Measurement (CEM) directed by Kimberly O’Malley, PhD. Designed to improve overall quality of measurement in the HSR&D community of scientists
- Development and launch of the Research Excellence Initiative (REI). This innovative approach to developing this organization represents our long-term commitment to establish & maintain standards that qualitatively define & measure the outcomes from this Center and serve as the model of excellence to all HSR&D units

Organization and Infrastructure

The Director, Dr. Carol Ashton, leads the Center and the Section Chief, Nelda P. Wray, MD, MPH, leads the Section of Health Services Research as our Baylor College of Medicine partner. In early FY01, Drs. Wray and Ashton formed the Team Leader Advisory Council (TLAC) as a representative body for Team Leaders focused on developing policies and practices that support the maturation of our scientists and sustained growth of the organization. The Associate Director, Michael L. Johnson, PhD, has led the TLAC efforts to provide substantive input to the Executive Team on issues of importance to the investigator group. The TLAC first priorities have been to address the items in the report of the Center’s Advisory Committee and meet the scientific and administrative challenges of the Center. Additionally, the Center’s operations/ administration section has undergone significant changes to improve efficiency and productivity. The addition of W. Keith Neeley, MBA, as the Chief Operating Officer (COO) and Angelita Vinluan, CPA, as the unit’s Chief Financial Officer (CFO) have positioned the organization to effectively deal with the challenges of sustainable, interdependent growth, fiscal responsibility, and professional development throughout the Center.

The COO provides administrative and strategic oversight of the following internal departments led by mid-level managers:

- Shannon Dwyer, BA, Director of Business Development
- Wednesday Foster, MPH, Chief of Project Staff
- Paul Gregor, PhD, Chief Information Officer
- Nancy Petersen, PhD, Assistant Director of Statistical Analysis and Data Processing
- Matt Price, MS, Chief Communications Officer
- Angelita Vinluan, CPA, Chief Financial Officer (CFO)

The organization’s structure enables the research team leaders to direct their teams in the execution of research projects and the middle managers to lead the support efforts in the areas of administration, finance, communications, strategic planning, and tactical execution.

At the beginning of the FY01, Dr. Ashton formed the HCQCUS Advisory Committee to validate and offer insights on our long-range plan. The summary points from the committee’s report indicate the following:

- Development of Investigator and Faculty staff is outstanding. Plan to sustain this growth
- Unleash the intellectual and collaborative potential of the Center and its investigators
- Develop system for financial planning information flow
- Strategy to retain Career Development Awardees
- Enhance organizational “buy-in” throughout staff organization
- Expand funding source opportunities

We remain confident that the new infrastructure explained in previous paragraphs will meet the opportunities outlined in the Committee's recommendations. Our new Center location coupled with the remodeled infrastructure provides the ideal framework within which our scientists can develop and expand their limitless potential.

Investigators

For FY01, the Center had 28 research team leaders, 13 from non-clinical disciplines and 15 from medicine. Center investigators have their primary academic appointments at Baylor College of Medicine, in the Department of Medicine, Section of Health Services Research, and the Center maintains close ties with the University of Texas School of Public Health.

The Center is extremely proud of its Career Development Awardees. Among the highlights for FY01 are:

- Dr. Howard Gordon's VA Advanced Career Development Award
- Drs. Paul Haidet & Hashem El-Serag's Career Development Awards
- Dr. Anita Deswal's VA Cooperative Studies Clinical Research Career Development Award
- Dr. Tracie Collins' Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Minority Medical Faculty Award

While these represent awards received early in FY01, other investigators including Drs. Linda Rabeneck, Mark Kunik, Laura Peterson, Rebecca Beyth, and A. Lynn Snow continue to sustain terrific progress on their respective awards from previous years. These projects and the collaborative efforts of the scientific body of this Center have enabled tremendous growth in scope and size of the organization. Just one example of this growth is the addition Herminia Palacio MD, MPH this year. Dr. Palacio will expand the "Racial and Ethnic Variation in Medical Interactions" project with her minority supplement grant and specific expertise in this area of research.

We are proud of our mix of research team leaders in the organization. In addition to research physicians, we maintain three biostatisticians, three psychologists, two health economists, and a psychometrician as members of our Investigator Core. This breadth of expertise and interest provides an appropriate balance in our efforts to seek and develop appropriate projects within the Center. In the coming year, we plan to add a translationist and an additional biostatistician to this team leader group.

Computer Information Systems

The Center of Excellence computer system, known as the Health Services Research Computing Center (HSRCC), and is led by Paul J. Gregor, PhD.

The HSRCC provides support for a wide range of information acquisition, analysis, and reporting activities. The HSRCC comprises a network of Unix and NT servers, office and common-area PCs, and shared printers and other devices.

The Center's Computing Network enables the staff to access all of our servers. Our connection to the HVAMC LAN facilitates our ready access to other VA information systems (such as the Austin Automation Center). From the hardware perspective, the system has dual CPUs with 2.25 GB of RAM and approximately 250GB of storage space. Another Unix processor on the network hosts an *Intranet* web site for distribution of certain types of information among Center staff. The system also includes two Intel-based file-and-print servers that run under Windows NT. These servers provide disk storage for sharing documents and administrative information among Center staff. All investigators have desktop PCs and printers. These PCs provide facilities for making slides, making CD ROMs, scanning documents, and reading mainframe-formatted tapes. Laptop computers are available for use while traveling. The common area has a docking station connected to the network.

Center systems have been configured for high reliability and maintainability and to guard against data loss. Parallel components and processors enable the system to continue operation in the event of major component failures. The Center also has an automated tape library for automatic daily backup of the HP system and the NT file servers.

Statistical software includes SAS, Stata, S-Plus, M-Plus. ACG software is available for patient case-mix analyses. Finally, Cardiff Teleform Software is available for writing and scanning forms. Microsoft Office is the standard suite of office tools.

Center Funding

The total budget for the Houston Center of Excellence for FY01 was \$8,753,104. This includes \$5,961,722 in project-generated funds, which represents a ratio of 7:1 to HSR&D Core funding. The FY01 budget reflects a 60.1% increase from FY00, aided in large part by growth in our federal non-VA funding which increased from \$269,647 in FY00 to \$2,193,775 in FY01. The FY01 amount of over \$2.1 million represents a nearly 714% increase over last year's \$269,647.

At the end of the fiscal year, the Center had a total of almost \$9 million dollars under review in grant applications. Total direct costs under review were \$6,335,250 and total indirect costs were \$2,642,257.

Research Projects

For FY01, the Center reports on 67 funded research projects and programs during this reporting period, up from 55 in FY00. Funding was initiated in FY01 for 28 new projects and programs, and funding was completed for 19 others. There are 10 other projects in analysis or final report preparation stage. Some summary information regarding a few of our high profile projects is provided below but greater detail may be found in Section 4 of this report.

As the VA Coordinating Center for the Chronic Heart Failure Quality Enhancement Research Initiative, The Houston Center looks forward to FY02 as the year for completion of translation and dissemination projects. Throughout FY01, the Center has remained focused in their efforts to improve methodology and findings from the CHF Cohort database of greater than 280,000 heart failure patients in the VA. In April 2001, the coordinating center received Service Directed Project (SDP) funding for work with VISN 16 on "Reducing readmission rates in patients with CHF." This project remains in the startup phase.

Several studies have moved from the data collection to the analysis and final report stages. Of particular note is Dr. Nancy Jo Dunn's project on Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD). So dynamic and intriguing are the initial findings that his grant was awarded a 1-year extension to include female veterans and complete the data analysis. Additionally, Dr. Rebecca Beyth's project on Anti-coagulant therapy has reached the final reporting phase. Her focus on patient outcomes and treatment strategies will offer unique insights on treatment quality and patient satisfaction. Other efforts by Dr. Linda Rabeneck and her team along with Dr. Laura Peterson and her group continue to produce significant results that will likely impact not only the parameters of health science research but also the policies and practices that drive improvement in health quality for our nation.

Research Dissemination

For FY01, The Center published or has in press 125 publications in peer-reviewed journals, academic texts, technical reports, and dissertations. The Center staff gave over 90 lectures or presentations.

Dissemination activities include news releases, newsletters and media contact. Highlights from FY01 include various media contacts at the local and national level. These include USA Today, various radio news and talk format stations, and internet news providers.

The Center continues to publish the informative newsletter, the *Research Monitor*. The *Research Monitor's* circulation is targeted to a nationwide audience of respected researchers, clinicians, and scholars in health services research. The *Research Monitor* has featured articles from our distinguished scientists and highlights their efforts and impact on today's most pressing healthcare service issues.

Impacts

Dissemination of research products that impact the delivery of VA and non-VA health services is one of the major objectives in support of our goal to advance research and practice in health services. Dr. Laura Petersen's FY01 work on the "*Risk-adjusted VERA Project (a.k.a.DBAF)*" continues to influence national

VA health policy with regard to health care financing and allocation of resources strategies. Project team members plan to present recommendations based on the findings of this project to the VA leadership board in November 2001.

The results of our CHF QUERI work developed the Coordinated Care Program program that uses discharge planning criteria and aggressive outpatient management to reduce hospitalizations. This program's goal is to reduce costs in the Veterans health systems while improving patient care throughout VISN 16 and the VHA.

Initial results of the PTSD study indicate a very open opportunity to improve the quality of life for our veterans. Further, the project provides a detailed examination of both the clinical and economic impacts of the group therapy interventions. We remain challenged with the effort to explore non-traditional means of disseminating findings to reach managers *and* caregivers in an effort to impact care in a broader sense.

Education and Training

The Center's FY01 Education and Training activities were led by Margaret Byrne, PhD, Assistant Director for Education Programs. A. Lynn Snow, PhD, has recently assumed the leadership for Education and Training for FY02.

The centerpiece of our Center's training activity is its VA funded post-doctoral fellowship program for non-clinician PhDs. Additionally, the mission of the Section includes: clinical fellows training, pre-doctoral training, emphasis on training of and collaboration with minority students and faculty, increased VA and non-VA career development awards and fellowships, and institutional training grants. We create an environment in which post-doctoral fellows mature into independent health services researchers who can contribute to the ability of the Department of Veterans Affairs to fulfill its health care mission.

You can find more detail on our training efforts in Section 7 of this report.

Leadership Roles

The investigators at the HCQCUS remain prominent leaders on national research committees, editorial review boards, and within academic associations. Led by senior researchers Drs. Nelda P. Wray, Carol M. Ashton, our investigators make a substantive contribution to advance science and promote VA HSR&D. Many of the senior investigators are leaders in their respective fields of expertise while providing substantive input to national Research organizations. Among the memberships and support organizations that investigators serve are the Society for General Internal Medicine (SGIM), Annals of Internal Medicine, American Journal of Cardiology, Robert Wood Johnson Clinical Scholars Program, Journal of the American Medical Association (JAMA), and the New England Journal of Medicine.

You can find more detail on the Houston Center's leaders and leadership activities in Section 6 of this report.

Future Plans

Through the months of January through July of FY01, the Houston Center of Excellence prepared, executed, and recovered from the move into its new space. The Open House, held in August 2001 and attended by nearly all of the VA and Baylor leaders in research and development, featured a keynote address by the Honorable Anthony Principi, Secretary of Veterans Affairs. The event was a tremendous success. Much of the remainder of 2001 was spent acquiring and training the necessary leadership that will lead the organization into the 21st Century. Thanks to the talent and dedication of all staff, the transitioning process has been a huge achievement.

In FY01, Matt D. Price, MS, led the Strategic Planning Process as the Executive Director for Strategic Planning. As we move into FY02, W. Keith Neeley and Matt Price, who was recently appointed to the new position of Chief Communications Officer, will jointly lead the development and execution of the Center's strategic plan. The Center remains committed to Strategic Planning and views the plan as an essential guide toward continued success. In the first quarter of FY02, members of the Executive,

Administrative, and Investigator leadership will convene to review progress on the Strategic plan and refine the Center's core values. The additional goal of this retreat is to enhance the strategic and tactical execution imperatives towards modeling these values. The Center's ongoing internal strategic planning will continue in FY02. Armed with the External Advisory Committee's recommendations and a new platform of infrastructure and resources, we renew our commitment to the opportunities we face in the quest to truly live our mission statement.

FY02 will be a year of renewed vigor in personal productivity and Center growth. Our goals for FY02 will continue to challenge the Center to operate and grow into new areas of research and community involvement. We are proud to be a national leader in research to eliminate racial disparities in health care utilization and outcomes. Our continuous efforts on CHF QUERI will further strengthen our reputation as a leader in the translation of research findings into practice.

From a quality perspective, we will focus on two key initiatives started in FY01: the Center of Excellence in Measurement (CEM) and the Research Excellence Initiative (REI).

The CEM will develop tools and mechanisms that aid in efficient information gathering for research projects. A companion goal remains to provide "on-line" access to these tools and the information. Additionally, the Center will facilitate the education of researchers on recent advances in measurement knowledge and use. This initiative is led by the center's leading psychometrician, Dr. Kimberly O'Malley.

The REI represents this Center's effort to qualitatively define excellence using internal evaluation and external impact metrics. The REI enhances our collective focus on the impact of our science and true leadership in the scientific community. Six teams that specialize their attention to the following areas facilitate the continuous development and execution of this initiative: Planning & Coordination, Professional Development Seminar Series, Mentoring & Education, Performance Evaluation, QOWW (HCQCUS Conference Series), and Community Liaison. The success of this endeavor rests on the creative minds of our scientists and administrators. We value this as a learning and development process with a steadfast goal to improve outcomes by improving our processes.

An additional challenge that we embrace in FY02 is the expansion of our funding resources. Dependence on soft money grants and contracts is a reality that puts a high degree of pressure on research team leaders to generate funding and on top management to monitor and spend funds wisely. The Center continues to build the organization under the business model. Our creation of the COO, CFO, and Director of Business Development roles brings intense concentration on the problems of increasing hard dollars to the Center, using the dollars efficiently, and marketing our capabilities to an under-informed audience seeking insight on health services research benefits. As the Center grows, capabilities in these areas must grow. The senior leaders, in collaboration with the new COO, continue to develop an interdependent infrastructure that coordinates internal departments to conduct Center business smoothly and efficiently. Key to this objective is the continuous development of our Enterprise Resource Planning system that synchronizes personnel, financial, and funding source data for use at all levels of organizational planning. As our national reputation advances, outside requests for collaboration increase, which leads to a challenge to balance collaboration with researchers' primary personal goals, and the desire to maintain a high degree of internal cohesiveness among staff. The Center continues to work hard to be a training ground for new leaders in health services research.

Under the guidance of careful planning, with a staff of highly talented and dedicated individuals at all levels, the Houston Center for Quality of Care and Utilization Studies continues to be a true Center of Excellence in every way.

2 Investigators

We are reminded of a quote by Horace Mann, "Only an isolated, solitary being, having no relations to a community around him, could subscribe to the arrogant doctrine of absolute ownership." All of the ideas we have had, and the vision that we have shared, have been refined, greatly improved and executed by the outstanding health services investigators and staff members who we have had the opportunity to work with. To all of these men and women, we say thank you.

Carol M. Ashton
Nelda P. Wray

The Houston Center for Quality of Care & Utilization Studies comprises eleven functional groups or teams:

- Executive Team
- Management Team
- Administrative Team
- Information Technology Team
- Programming Team
- Core Project Team
- Other Project Team
- Volunteer Team
- Core Investigator Team
- Affiliate Investigator Team
- Trainee Team

The executive team comprises Carol M. Ashton, MD, MPH, Director of the Houston Center for Quality of Care and Utilization Studies; Michael L. Johnson, PhD, Associate Director of the Center; and Nelda P. Wray, MD, MPH, Chief of the Section of Health Services, Baylor College of Medicine. These three executive team members also maintain dual responsibilities as core investigators.

The management team is led by W. Keith Neeley, MBA, Assistant Director for Finance and Administration and Chief Operating Officer; and along with Angelita Vinluan, CPA, Chief Financial Officer and the three executive team members, make up the Center's Consensus Team. The Consensus Team was formed to provide strategic direction to the Center and meets weekly to monitor critical organizational needs and to plan for the Center's future.

In addition to moving to a new location, our organization has also moved toward adopting a more focused philosophy as it relates to our administrative team, and is best described in the administration's mission: "The primary goal of our administrative department is to build a well-developed team composed of individuals committed to logistically supporting the needs of this Center by providing resources and expertise that further the objectives of our organization."

A significant contributing factor in the success of our Center can be attributed to our excellent information technology and computer programming staffs. Not only are these professionals responsible for maintaining leading-edge information and communications technologies, they are also highly skilled in the science of bridging data collection, analysis and use.

Project staff provide research support to principal investigators in four major areas: participant recruitment and retention; data collection, management and reporting; grant, publication, and presentation preparation; and general project coordination and management. Core and affiliate investigators as well as our trainees are the nidus of our Center of Excellence. The sections that follow detail the accomplishments of these professionals.

The current members of the eleven teams, as of October 1, 2001, are listed below. Please refer to the organizational chart that follows.

Executive Team

Name	Degree	Title	Hire Date
Carol Ashton	MD, MPH	Director, HCQCUS	1990
Nelda Wray	MD, MPH	Chief, Baylor Section of Health Services Research	1990
Michael Johnson	PhD	Associate Director, HCQCUS	1992

Management Team

Name	Degree	Title	Hire Date
W. Keith Neeley	MBA	Assistant Director, Administration and Finance; Chief Operating Officer	2001
Angelita Vinluan	BA (CPA)	Chief Financial Officer	2000
Shannon Dwyer	BA	Director of Business Development	1993
Theresa Foss	BS	Office Manager	2001
Wednesday Foster	MPH	Chief of Project Staff and Project Manager	1998
Paul Gregor	PhD	Chief Information Officer	1998
Nancy Petersen	PhD	Assistant Director for Statistical Analysis and Data Processing	1990
Matt Price	MS	Chief Communications Officer	1995
A. Lynn Snow	PhD	Assistant Director for Education	2000

Administrative Team

Name	Degree	Title	Hire Date
Dianna Bufkin	AS	Executive Assistant to Directors	1997
Barbara Chamberlin		Receptionist	2000
Jon Cooper		Team Leader Support	2001
Aida DeLeon	BBA	Accounts Payable/Accounts Receivable and Budgets	2001
Lindsay Hommel	BS	Pre-Grant Development	2001
Robert Mooney		Purchasing and Travel	2001
Rhonda O'Donovan		Executive Assistant to Chief of Health Services Research	1997
Yvette Pinales		Administrative Assistant to Team Leaders	2000

Information Technology Team

Name	Degree	Title	Hire Date
Jerry Turner		IT Staff	1997
Chris Williams	BA	IT Staff	1999

Programming Team

Name	Degree	Title	Hire Date
Iris Huang	MS	Programming Staff	1991
Mark Kuebeler	MS	Programming Staff	1999
Meei Ku-Goto	MS	Programming Staff	1993
Harlan Nelson	MS	Programming Staff	1998
Emeil Owens	EdD	Programming Staff	2001
Peter Richardson	PhD	Programming Staff	1999
Michael Thompson	MS	Programming Staff	1999
Diana Urbauer	MS	Programming Staff	2001

Core Project Team

Name	Degree	Title	Hire Date
Jennifer Adams	MA	Project Staff	1998
Loralee Capistrano	BS	Project Staff	1999
Sharon Eason	BS	Project Staff	2001
Alicia Gladney	MS	Project Staff	2001
Carl Hale	BS	Project Staff	1999
Susan Hall	BA	Project Staff	2001
Noemi Huitron-Ortega	BS	Project Staff	2001
Dolly Ann John	BA	Project Staff	2001
Clinton Ladd	BA	Project Staff	2000
Nancy Logan	MA	Project Staff	2001
Rebecca Lundwall	Med	Project Staff	2001
J. Elizabeth Martin		Project Staff	1999
Ellen Matthiesen	BA	Project Staff	1999
Chong Pak	MPH	Project Staff	2001
Siddharta Reddy	MPH	Project Staff	2000
Marsha Richardson	MSW	Project Staff	2001
Supicha Sookanan	BS	Project Staff	2001
Linda Stelljes	MA	Project Staff	1999
Mary Torres		Project Staff	2000
Tracy Urech	BA	Project Staff	2001
Elisia Yanasak	BA	Project Staff	1999
Darrell Zeno	MS	Project Staff	2001

Other Project Team

Name	Degree	Title	Hire Date
Cynthia Boudreaux	MA	Network-wide Research Compliance Officer	1999
Donna Espadas	BA	CHF QUERI Center Manager	1998
Theresa Hernandez		Other Project Staff	2001

John Hollingsworth	MPH	Other Project Staff	1993
Frank Martin	MS	Director, IDEAL Core	1998
Nora Osemene	PhD	Other Project Staff	2001
Lynn Rehm	PhD	Other Project Staff	1997
Barbara Sharf	PhD	Other Project Staff	2001
Anh Tran	MPH	EXCEED Program Coordinator	2000

Volunteer Team

Name	Title	Hire Date
DeAnna Abraham	Volunteer, PTSD Study	2001
Debbie Garcia	Volunteer, PTSD Study	2001
Tracy Hummel	Volunteer, PTSD Study	2001
Kara Ridenbaugh	Volunteer, PTSD Study	2001

Core Investigator Team

Name	Degree	Title	Hire Date
Carol Ashton	MD, MPH	Senior Scientist	1990
Rebecca Beyth	MD, MS	Senior Scientist	1999
Ursula Braun	MD	Senior Scientist	2001
Margaret Byrne	PhD	Senior Scientist	1996
Tracie Collins	MD, MPH	Senior Scientist	1998
Anita Deswal	MD	Senior Scientist	2000
Nancy Jo Dunn	PhD	Senior Scientist	1997
Hashem El-Serag	MD, MPH	Senior Scientist	1999
Laura Goetzl	MD, MPH	Senior Scientist	2000
Howard Gordon	MD	Senior Scientist	1996
Paul Haidet	MD, MPH	Senior Scientist	1998
Michael Johnson	PhD	Senior Scientist	1992
Mark Kunik	MD, MPH	Senior Scientist	1999
Terri Menke	PhD	Senior Scientist	1991
Robert Morgan	PhD	Senior Scientist	1999
Kimberly O'Malley	PhD	Senior Scientist	1999
Herminia Palacio	MD, MPH	Senior Scientist	2001
Laura Petersen	MD, MPH	Senior Scientist	1998
Nancy Petersen	PhD	Senior Scientist	1990
Ken Pietz	PhD	Senior Scientist	1994
Linda Rabeneck	MD, MPH	Senior Scientist	1990
A. Lynn Snow	PhD	Senior Scientist	2000
Julianne Soucek	PhD	Senior Scientist	1993
Maria Suarez-Almazor	MD, PhD	Senior Scientist	1999
Nelda Wray	MD, MPH	Senior Scientist	1990
Mary York	PhD	Senior Scientist	2001

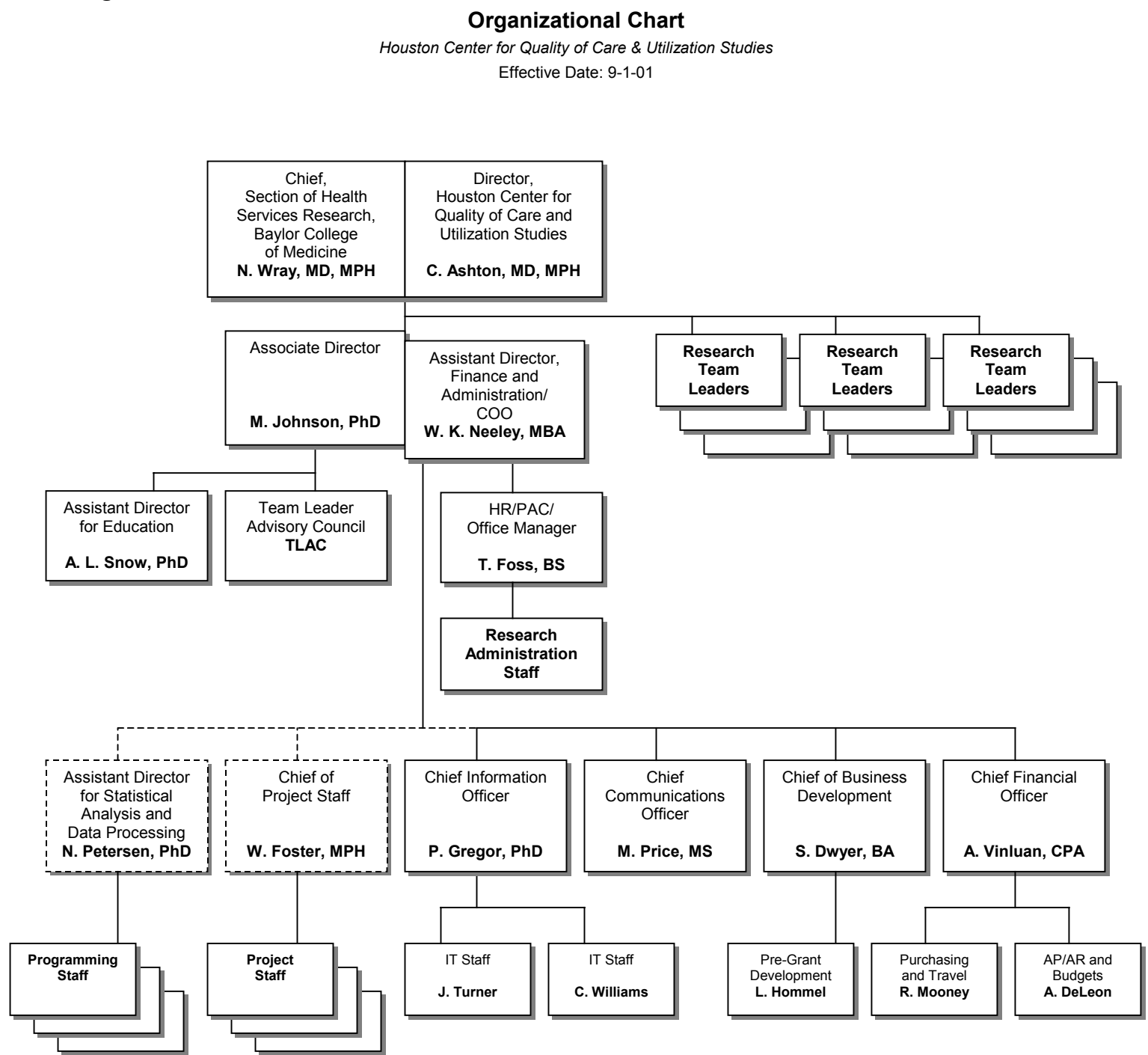
Affiliate Investigator Team

Name	Degree	Title
Baruch Brody	MD	Affiliate Investigator
Karon Cook	PhD	Affiliate Investigator
Anthony Greisinger	PhD	Affiliate Investigator
Joseph Hamilton	MD	Affiliate Investigator
Drew Helmer	MD, MS	Affiliate Investigator
Douglas Mann	MD	Affiliate Investigator
Laurence McCullough	PhD	Affiliate Investigator
Debora Paterniti	PhD	Affiliate Investigator

Trainee Team

Name	Degree	Title	Hire Date
Julie Aniol	PhD	Post Doc/Fellow	2000
Serena Chu	PhD	Post Doc/Fellow	2001
Jessica Davila	PhD	Post Doc/Fellow	2001
Damian Mallat	MD	Post Doc/Fellow	2001
LeChauncy Woodard	MD	Post Doc/Fellow	2001

2.1 Organizational Chart



2.2 Investigators (Table 1)

Houston Center of Excellence Investigators (Core and Affiliate), FY 2001

	Degree(s)	Field Program Title(s)	Other VA Title(s)	University Title(s)	Year Joined FP	FTEE*	Designated Research Areas / Interests/Expertise
Core Investigator(s)							
Cheryl B. Anderson	PhD	Research		Assistant Professor, Department of Pediatrics, Baylor College of Medicine	1999	0.05	DRE(s): Prevention Interests / Behavior and Behavioral Mechanisms Children's Health Cultural Diversity Depression Effects of Exercise on Functional Status and Injury Risk Health Behavior Patient Compliance Physical Activity Research Design Risk Factors Women's Health

**** Left COE In 2001**

Houston Center of Excellence Investigators (Core and Affiliate), FY 2001

	Degree(s)	Field Program Title(s)	Other VA Title(s)	University Title(s)	Year Joined FP FTEE*	Designated Research Areas / Interests/Expertise
Carol M. Ashton	MD, MPH	Director (COE)	Staff Physician, General Medicine Section, Houston VA Medical Center Deputy Associate Chief of Staff, for Research and Development, Houston VAMC	Professor, Department of Medicine and Medical Ethics, Baylor College of Medicine Adjunct Professor, The University of Texas School of Public Health, Houston	1990 1	DRA(s): Health Services and Systems DRE(s): Quality of Care Diagnosis and Prognosis Epidemiology Resource Use and Cost Interests / Databases Disparities in Treatments Received Evidence-Based Medicine Health Care Policy Health Services Accessibility Health Services Needs and Demands Outcome Assessment (Health Physician Practice Patterns Physician-Patient Relations Quality Assurance, Health Care - Quality of Health Care
Rebecca J. Beyth	MD, MS	Physician Affiliate Investigator - Part-time	Staff Physician - Part-time	Assistant Professor of Medicine, Baylor College of Medicine	1999 0.303	DRA(s): Aging and Age Related Changes Chronic Diseases Health Services and Systems DRE(s): Epidemiology Quality of Care Communication and Decision Making Prevention

Houston Center of Excellence Investigators (Core and Affiliate), FY 2001

	Degree(s)	Field Program Title(s)	Other VA Title(s)	University Title(s)	Year Joined FP FTEE*	Designated Research Areas / Interests/Expertise
Ursula K. Braun	MD	Staff Physician		Assistant Professor of Medicine, Department of Medicine, Baylor College of Medicine	2001 0	DRA(s): Aging and Age Related Changes Health Services and Systems Chronic Diseases DRE(s): Communication and Decision Making Quality of Care Treatment
Margaret M. Byrne	PhD	Research	Research	Assistant Professor, Department of Medicine, Baylor College of Medicine	1996 0.625	DRA(s): Health Services and Systems DRE(s): Quality of Care Resource Use and Cost Communication and Decision Making Interests / Behavior Cost-Benefit Analysis Financial Incentives Health Services Research Medical Ethics Policy Making

Houston Center of Excellence Investigators (Core and Affiliate), FY 2001

	Degree(s)	Field Program Title(s)	Other VA Title(s)	University Title(s)	Year Joined FP FTEE*	Designated Research Areas / Interests/Expertise
Tracie C. Collins	MD, MPH	Physician-Health Services Researcher	Staff Physician	Assistant Professor, Department of Medicine, Baylor College of Medicine	1998 0.5	DRA(s): Special (Underserved, High Chronic Diseases DRE(s): Communication and Decision Making Quality of Care Etiology Epidemiology Interests / Cardiovascular Diseases Cerebrovascular Disorders Chronic Disease Clinical Decision-Making Health Services Research Lower Extremity Amputation Outcome Assessment (Health Patient Acceptance of Health Care
Anita Deswal	MD	Physician-Health Services Researcher	Staff Physician	Assistant Professor, Department of Medicine, Baylor College of Medicine	2000 1	DRA(s): Chronic Diseases Special (Underserved, High DRE(s): Diagnosis and Prognosis Epidemiology Treatment Quality of Care Etiology Pathophysiology Interests / Cardiology Clinical Trials Outcomes Measurement Racial Differences in Care

Houston Center of Excellence Investigators (Core and Affiliate), FY 2001

	Degree(s)	Field Program Title(s)	Other VA Title(s)	University Title(s)	Year Joined FP FTEE*	Designated Research Areas / Interests/Expertise
Nancy Jo Dunn	PhD	Research	Clinical Psychologist, Houston VAMC	Clinical Assistant Professor, Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences Adjunct Faculty, Department of Psychology, University of	1997 1	DRA(s): Health Services and Systems Mental Illness Special (Underserved, High DRE(s): Diagnosis and Prognosis Treatment Interests / Comorbidity Depression Stress Disorders, Post-Traumatic Treatment Outcome
Hashem B. El-Serag	MD, MPH	Health Services Researcher	Staff Physician, Medical Service, Gastroenterology	Assistant Professor, Department of Medicine, Baylor College of Medicine	1999 1	DRA(s): Chronic Diseases Health Services and Systems DRE(s): Communication and Decision Making Diagnosis and Prognosis Epidemiology Etiology Resource Use and Cost Treatment Interests / Clinical Decision-Making Comorbidity Cost-Benefit Analysis Databases Evidence-Based Medicine Hepatitis C Neoplasms Outcome Assessment (Health
Laura Goetzl	MD, MPH				2000	

Houston Center of Excellence Investigators (Core and Affiliate), FY 2001

	Degree(s)	Field Program Title(s)	Other VA Title(s)	University Title(s)	Year Joined FP	FTEE*	Designated Research Areas / Interests/Expertise
Howard S. Gordon	MD, SB	Research Associate (Clinician Scientist - Level I)	Staff Physician	Assistant Professor, Baylor Department of Medicine	1996	1	DRA(s): Health Services and Systems Aging and Age Related Changes Chronic Diseases Special (Underserved, High DRE(s): Communication and Decision Making Quality of Care Resource Use and Cost Interests / Advance Directives Behavior Benchmarking Cardiovascular Diseases Clinical Decision-Making Comorbidity Databases Health Behavior Health Care Seeking Behavior Health Services Accessibility Health Services Research Knowledge, Attitudes, Practice Low Back Pain Lower Extremity Amputation Outcome Assessment (Health Patient Acceptance of Health Care Physician Practice Patterns Physician-Patient Relations Procedure Use and Outcomes in Cardiology Quality Assurance, Health Care - Quality of Health Care Risk Adjustment

Houston Center of Excellence Investigators (Core and Affiliate), FY 2001

	Degree(s)	Field Program Title(s)	Other VA Title(s)	University Title(s)	Year Joined		Designated Research Areas / Interests/Expertise
					FP	FTEE*	
Paul Haidet	MD, MPH	Medical Educator Clinical Researcher	Staff Physician	Assistant Professor, Baylor Department of Medicine	1998	1	United States Department of Veteran Affairs DRA(s): Health Services and Systems DRE(s): Communication and Decision Making Prevention Quality of Care Interests / Advance Directives Ambulatory Care Behavior Evidence-Based Medicine Health Behavior Health Care Seeking Behavior Medical Education Medical Ethics Patient Education Patient Satisfaction Physician-Patient Relations Professional-Patient Relations Teaching

Houston Center of Excellence Investigators (Core and Affiliate), FY 2001

	Degree(s)	Field Program Title(s)	Other VA Title(s)	University Title(s)	Year Joined FP FTEE*	Designated Research Areas / Interests/Expertise
Michael L. Johnson	PhD	Associate Director, Center of Excellence Research Health Science Specialist		Assistant Professor, Baylor College of Medicine, Department of Medicine, Section of Health Services Research	1992 1	DRA(s): Health Services and Systems Chronic Diseases Special (Underserved, High DRE(s): Quality of Care Resource Use and Cost Interests / Biostatistics Chronic Disease Databases Health Services Research Outcome Assessment (Health Practice Patterns Procedure Use and Outcomes in Cardiology Quality Assurance, Health Care - Quality of Health Care Research Design Risk Adjustment
Mark E. Kunik	MD, MPH	Senior Research Associate	Staff Physician	Associate Professor of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences	1999 1	DRA(s): Aging and Age Related Changes Chronic Diseases Mental Illness DRE(s): Diagnosis and Prognosis Epidemiology Treatment Interests / Alzheimer's Disease Behavioral Chronic Disease Dementia Depression Health Services Research Treatment Outcome

Houston Center of Excellence Investigators (Core and Affiliate), FY 2001

	Degree(s)	Field Program Title(s)	Other VA Title(s)	University Title(s)	Year Joined FP	FTEE*	Designated Research Areas / Interests/Expertise
Terri J. Menke	PhD	Research		Associate Professor, Department of Medicine, Baylor College of Medicine	1991	0.1	DRA(s): Health Services and Systems DRE(s): Resource Use and Cost Interests / Cost-Benefit Analysis Delivery of Health Care, Integrated Health Care Policy Health Services Accessibility Health Services Research HIV/AIDS Managed Care Programs United States Department of Veteran Affairs Utilization and Cost of Health Care

Houston Center of Excellence Investigators (Core and Affiliate), FY 2001

	Degree(s)	Field Program Title(s)	Other VA Title(s)	University Title(s)	Year Joined		Designated Research Areas / Interests/Expertise
					FP	FTEE*	
Robert O. Morgan	PhD	Health Services Researcher	Statistician	Associate Professor, Department of Medicine, Baylor College of Medicine Adjunct Associate Professor, Department of Community and Family Medicine, Dartmouth Medical School	1999	0.63	DRA(s): Aging and Age Related Changes Chronic Diseases Health Services and Systems DRE(s): Communication and Decision Making Diagnosis and Prognosis Epidemiology Quality of Care Resource Use and Cost Interests / Accidental Falls Advance Directives Ambulatory Care Behavior Behavior and Behavioral Mechanisms Best Practices Chronic Disease Clinical Decision-Making Comorbidity Cost-Benefit Analysis Cost-Effectiveness of Primary Care Cross-Cultural Comparison Cultural Diversity Databases Delivery of Health Care, Integrated Dementia Depression Diffusion of Effects of Exercise on Functional Status and Injury Risk Emergency Medical Services Evidence-Based Medicine Fall-Related Injuries in the Elderly Frail Elderly Health Behavior

Houston Center of Excellence Investigators (Core and Affiliate), FY 2001

Degree(s)	Field Program Title(s)	Other VA Title(s)	University Title(s)	Year Joined		Designated Research Areas / Interests/Expertise
				FP	FTEE*	
						Health Care Costs and Cost Analysis Health Care Evaluation Mechanisms Health Care Seeking Behavior Health Services Needs and Demands Health Services Research Managed Care Programs Medical Education Organizational Policy Outcome Assessment (Health Physician Practice Patterns Physician-Patient Relations Population Characteristics Public Policy Research Design Risk Adjustment Risk Factors Sample Size Telemedicine Treatment Outcome Utilization and Cost of Health Care

Houston Center of Excellence Investigators (Core and Affiliate), FY 2001

	Degree(s)	Field Program Title(s)	Other VA Title(s)	University Title(s)	Year Joined FP FTEE*	Designated Research Areas / Interests/Expertise
Kimberly J. O'Malley	PhD	Research Health Science Specialist	Psychometrician	Assistant Professor, Department of Medicine, Baylor College of Medicine	1999 0.625	DRA(s): Health Services and Systems DRE(s): Epidemiology Treatment Communication and Decision Making Interests / Behavior Best Practices Clinical Decision-Making Databases Delivery of Health Care, Integrated Health Behavior Health Services Needs and Demands Knowledge, Attitudes, Practice Multicenter Study Pain Patient Satisfaction Physician Practice Patterns Quality of Life Sample Size Teaching Treatment Outcome United States Department of Veteran Affairs
Herminia Palacio	MD, MPH	Physician, Department of Medicine		Assistant Professor, Department of Medicine, Baylor College of Medicine	2001 0.5	DRA(s): Health Services and Systems Special (Underserved, High DRE(s): Epidemiology Resource Use and Cost

Houston Center of Excellence Investigators (Core and Affiliate), FY 2001

	Degree(s)	Field Program Title(s)	Other VA Title(s)	University Title(s)	Year Joined FP	FTEE*	Designated Research Areas / Interests/Expertise
Laura A. Petersen	MD, MPH	Research Associate (Clinician Scientist - Level II)	Staff Physician	Assistant Professor, Department of Medicine, Baylor College of Medicine	1998	1	DRA(s): Chronic Diseases Health Services and Systems Special (Underserved, High DRE(s): Epidemiology Quality of Care Treatment Resource Use and Cost Interests / Benchmarking Best Practices Cardiovascular Diseases Delivery of Health Care, Integrated Health Services Accessibility Health Services Needs and Demands Outcome Assessment (Health Physician Practice Patterns Procedure Use and Outcomes in Cardiology Quality of Care

Houston Center of Excellence Investigators (Core and Affiliate), FY 2001

	Degree(s)	Field Program Title(s)	Other VA Title(s)	University Title(s)	Year Joined FP FTEE*	Designated Research Areas / Interests/Expertise
Nancy J. Petersen	PhD	Assistant Director for Statistical Analysis and Data Biostatistician, HCQCUS		Assistant Professor, Department of Medicine, Baylor College of Medicine	1990 1	DRA(s): Health Services and Systems Chronic Diseases DRE(s): Resource Use and Cost Epidemiology Quality of Care Interests / Assessment Biostatistics Chronic Heart Failure Comorbidity Controlled Clinical Trial Databases Patient Outcomes Quality Assurance, Health Care - Quality of Health Care Risk Adjustment Utilization and Cost of Health Care
Kenneth C. Pietz	PhD	Biostatistician		Assistant Professor	1994 1	
Linda Rabeneck	MD, MPH	Senior Research Associate (Clinician Scientist, Level II)	Staff Physician	Associate Professor, Department of Medicine, Baylor College of Medicine	1990 1	DRA(s): Chronic Diseases DRE(s): Pathophysiology Interests / Clinical Decision-Making Controlled Clinical Trial Outcome Assessment (Health

Houston Center of Excellence Investigators (Core and Affiliate), FY 2001

	Degree(s)	Field Program Title(s)	Other VA Title(s)	University Title(s)	Year Joined		Designated Research Areas / Interests/Expertise
					FP	FTEE*	
A. Lynn Snow	PhD	Research Health Science Specialist Assistant Director for Education		Instructor, Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences, Baylor College of Medicine	2000	1	DRA(s): Aging and Age Related Changes Mental Illness Health Services and Systems DRE(s): Diagnosis and Prognosis Treatment Quality of Care Interests / Assessment Dementia Long-Term Care Outcome Assessment (Health Pain Psychometrics Quality Assurance, Health Care - Quality of Health Care Research Design
Julianne Soucek	PhD	Biostatistician		Assistant Professor, Department of Medicine, Baylor College of Medicine	1993	1	DRA(s): Health Services and Systems DRE(s): Quality of Care Resource Use and Cost Communication and Decision Making Interests / Health Care Evaluation Mechanisms Health Services Research Meta-Analysis Randomized Controlled Trial Research Design Risk Factors Sample Size Statistical Methodology Utilization and Cost of Health Care

Houston Center of Excellence Investigators (Core and Affiliate), FY 2001

	Degree(s)	Field Program Title(s)	Other VA Title(s)	University Title(s)	Year Joined		Designated Research Areas / Interests/Expertise
					FP	FTEE*	
Maria E. Suarez-Almazor	MD, PhD	Affiliate Investigator, Without Compensation (WOC)		Associate Professor, Department of Medicine, Baylor College of Medicine	1999	0	DRA(s): Chronic Diseases Health Services and Systems DRE(s): Communication and Decision Making Diagnosis and Prognosis Quality of Care

Houston Center of Excellence Investigators (Core and Affiliate), FY 2001

	Degree(s)	Field Program Title(s)	Other VA Title(s)	University Title(s)	Year Joined		Designated Research Areas / Interests/Expertise
					FP	FTEE*	
Nelda P. Wray	MD, MPH	Physician-Health Services Researcher QUERI Research Coordinator	Chief, General Medicine Section, Medical Service, VAMC Houston	Professor, Department of Medicine, Baylor College of Medicine Chief, Section of Health Services Research, Department of Medicine, Baylor College of Medicine Professor of Medical Ethics, Center for Medical Ethics and Health Policy, Baylor College of Medicine Adjunct Professor (Health Services), the University of Texas School of Public Health, Houston	1990	1	DRA(s): Health Services and Systems Chronic Diseases Aging and Age Related Changes DRE(s): Communication and Decision Making Quality of Care Resource Use and Cost Interests / Advance Directives Behavior Behavior and Behavioral Mechanisms Benchmarking Chronic Disease Clinical Competence Controlled Clinical Trial Cost-Benefit Analysis Cross-Cultural Comparison Databases Delivery of Health Care, Integrated Health Behavior Health Care Costs and Cost Analysis Health Care Policy Health Services Needs and Demands Health Services Research Medical Ethics Multicenter Study Neoplasms Organization and Management Outcome Assessment (Health Patient Satisfaction Procedure Use and Outcomes in Cardiology Product Line Management

Houston Center of Excellence Investigators (Core and Affiliate), FY 2001

Degree(s)	Field Program Title(s)	Other VA Title(s)	University Title(s)	Year Joined		Designated Research Areas / Interests/Expertise
				FP	FTEE*	
						Quality Assurance, Health Care - Quality of Health Care Quality of Life Randomized Controlled Trial Research Design Risk Adjustment Risk Factors
Mary York	PhD				2001	

* FTEE refers to percentage of time devoted to HSR&D that is paid by the VA

Houston Center of Excellence Investigators (Core and Affiliate), FY 2001

	Degree(s)	Field Program Title(s)	Other VA Title(s)	University Title(s)	Year Joined FP	FTEE*	Designated Research Areas / Interests/Expertise
Affiliate Investigator(s)							
Baruch A. Brody	PhD	Affiliate Investigator		Leon Jaworski Professor of Biomedical Ethics, Baylor College of Medicine Director, Center for Medical Ethics and Health Policy, Baylor College of Medicine Profesor, Philosophy, Rice	1993	0	DRA(s): Health Services and Systems Aging and Age Related Changes DRE(s): DRE(s): Communication and Decision Making Interests / Health Services Research Medical Ethics
Karon F. Cook	PhD, MA	Affiliate Investigator		Assistant Professor, Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, Baylor College of Medicine	1996	1	DRA(s): Aging and Age Related Changes DRE(s): Rehabilitation Interests / Computer Intensive Statistical Method Health Services Research Outcome Assessment (Health Quality of Life Research Design

Houston Center of Excellence Investigators (Core and Affiliate), FY 2001

	Degree(s)	Field Program Title(s)	Other VA Title(s)	University Title(s)	Year Joined FP FTEE*	Designated Research Areas / Interests/Expertise
Anthony J. Greisinger	PhD	Affiliate Investigator			1998 0.05	DRA(s): Health Services and Systems Chronic Diseases DRE(s): Communication and Decision Making Quality of Care Diagnosis and Prognosis Interests / Cardiovascular Diseases Health Behavior Health Services Research Hospice Care Neoplasms Outcome Assessment (Health Patient Education Physician-Patient Relations Quality of Life
Joseph D. Hamilton	MD	Physician	Mental Health Care Line Executive	Associate Professor, Department of Psychiatry, Baylor College of Medicine	0.05	Interests / Mental Illness
Drew Helmer	MD, MS	Affiliate Investigator			2000 0.05	
Douglas L. Mann	MD	QUERI Clinical Coordinator/Affiliate Investigator	Chief, Section of Cardiology	Professor of Medicine, Baylor College of Medicine	1998 0.05	DRA(s): Chronic Diseases DRE(s): Diagnosis and Prognosis Etiology Prevention Technology Development and Assessment Interests / Cardiology Cardiovascular Diseases Comorbidity

Houston Center of Excellence Investigators (Core and Affiliate), FY 2001

	Degree(s)	Field Program Title(s)	Other VA Title(s)	University Title(s)	Year Joined		Designated Research Areas / Interests/Expertise
					FP	FTEE*	
Laurence B. McCullough	PhD	Affiliate Investigator - Without Compensation (WOC)	Staff Associate for Long-Term Care Research, Houston VAMC	Professor of Medicine, and Medical Ethics, Center for Medical Ethics and Health Policy, Baylor College of Medicine, Houston Faculty Associate, Huffington Center on Aging, Baylor College of Medicine Adjunct Professor of Ethics in Obstetrics and Gynecology, Cornell University Medical College, New York	1997	0	DRA(s): Health Services and Systems Special (Underserved, High Aging and Age Related Changes DRE(s): Communication and Decision Making Interests / Frail Elderly Medical Ethics Physician-Patient Relations

Houston Center of Excellence Investigators (Core and Affiliate), FY 2001

	Degree(s)	Field Program Title(s)	Other VA Title(s)	University Title(s)	Year Joined FP	FTEE*	Designated Research Areas / Interests/Expertise
Debora A. Paterniti	PhD	Affiliate Investigator		Assistant Professor, Department of Medicine, Baylor College of Medicine	1997	0.1	DRA(s): Aging and Age Related Changes Chronic Diseases Health Services and Systems DRE(s): Communication and Decision Making Quality of Care Interests / Advance Directives Cross-Cultural Comparison Cultural Diversity Health Behavior Health Care Policy Health Care Seeking Behavior Health Services Research Knowledge, Attitudes, Practice Long-Term Care Medical Education Medical Ethics Medical Sociology Patient Acceptance of Health Care Patient Compliance Patient Education Patient Satisfaction Physician-Patient Relations Professional-Patient Relations Quality of Life Research Design Women's Health

* FTEE refers to percentage of time devoted to HSR&D that is paid by the VA

3 Center Funding

The Houston Center for Quality of Care and Utilization Studies is one of 12 health services research and development centers of excellence funded by the Department of Veterans Affairs. The Center was established in 1990 as a result of a competitive award process. As the name indicates, the Houston Center focuses its research on quality of care and the utilization of health services. The Center has particular experience in the use of large databases for research, and secondary analysis of such databases is a technique used in much of the Center's research.

During FY01, the Center has continued its success in obtaining funding from various funding streams outside the annual core allocation from the VA HSR&D Service and contributions from the Houston VA Medical Center – namely, VA research grants; research grants from other federal agencies; eight career development grants; and VISN agreements. We attribute this success to an outstanding cadre of investigators on staff who are dedicated to supporting the missions of VHA Headquarters, the various VISN programs, VISN 16, and the Houston VA Medical Center. The Houston Center now has eight funding streams: 1) annual core allocation from the VA HSR&D Service in VA Headquarters; 2) VA research grants; 3) research grants from other federal agencies; 4) research grants from philanthropic foundations and drug study companies; 5) VA and non-VA training grants and career development grants; 6) project contracts with VA entities; 7) contributions from the Houston VA Medical Center; and 8) University contributions from Baylor College of Medicine, Department of Medicine, Section of Health Services Research.

The total budget for the Houston Center of Excellence for FY01 was \$8,753,104. This includes \$5,961,722 in project-generated funds, an approximate ratio of 7:1 of leveraged project funding to HSR&D Core funding. The FY01 budget reflects a 60.1% increase from FY00. The largest growth is in federal non-VA funding, which increased from \$269,647 in FY00 to \$2,193,775 in FY01, primarily due to two multi-year AHRQ research grants, followed by an increase in HSR&D due to the receipt of three new career development grants.

Funding from contractual projects with VISN's decreased from \$593,850 in FY00 to \$583,154 in FY01. SDR funding continued to decline, to \$69,525, down from \$586,306 five years ago, while IIR funding continued to increase, to \$777,881, up from \$167,944 five years ago.

At the end of the fiscal year, the Center had a total of almost \$9 million dollars under review in grant applications. Total direct costs under review were \$6,335,250 and total indirect costs were \$2,642,257. The Center estimates that it should always have approximately 3 to 4 times its current operating budget under review, assuming approval rates on grant submissions of 25% to 33%.

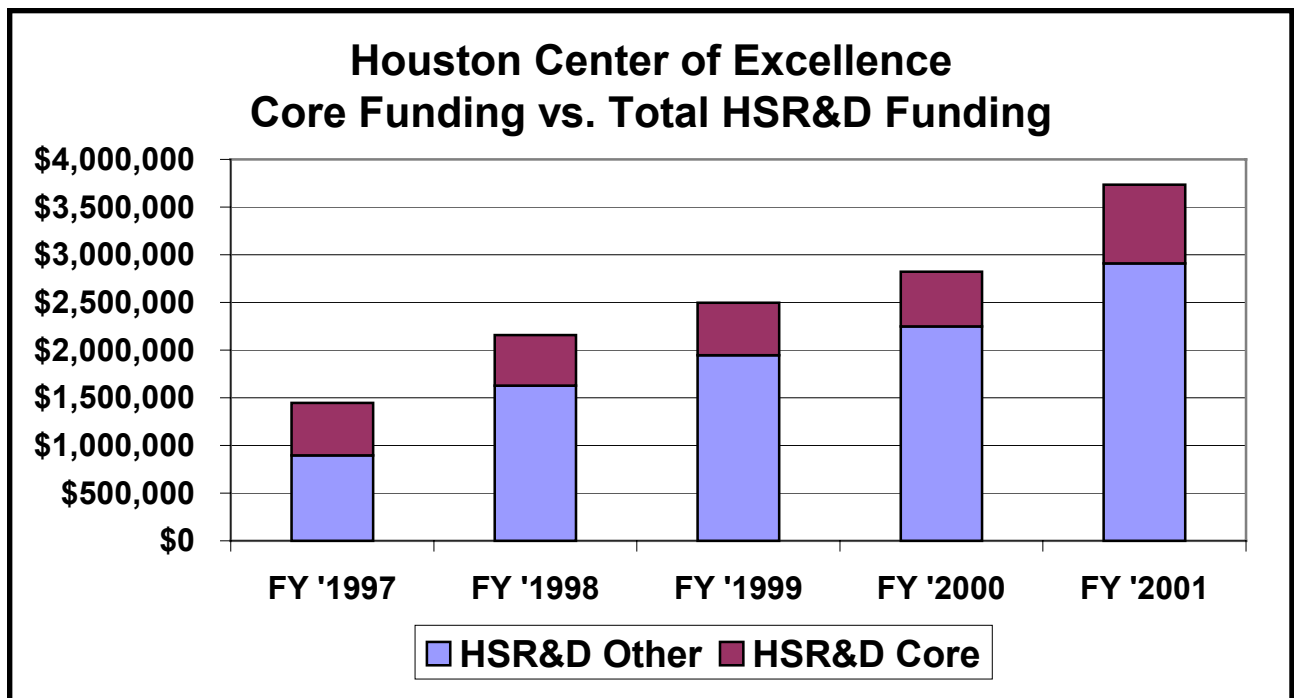
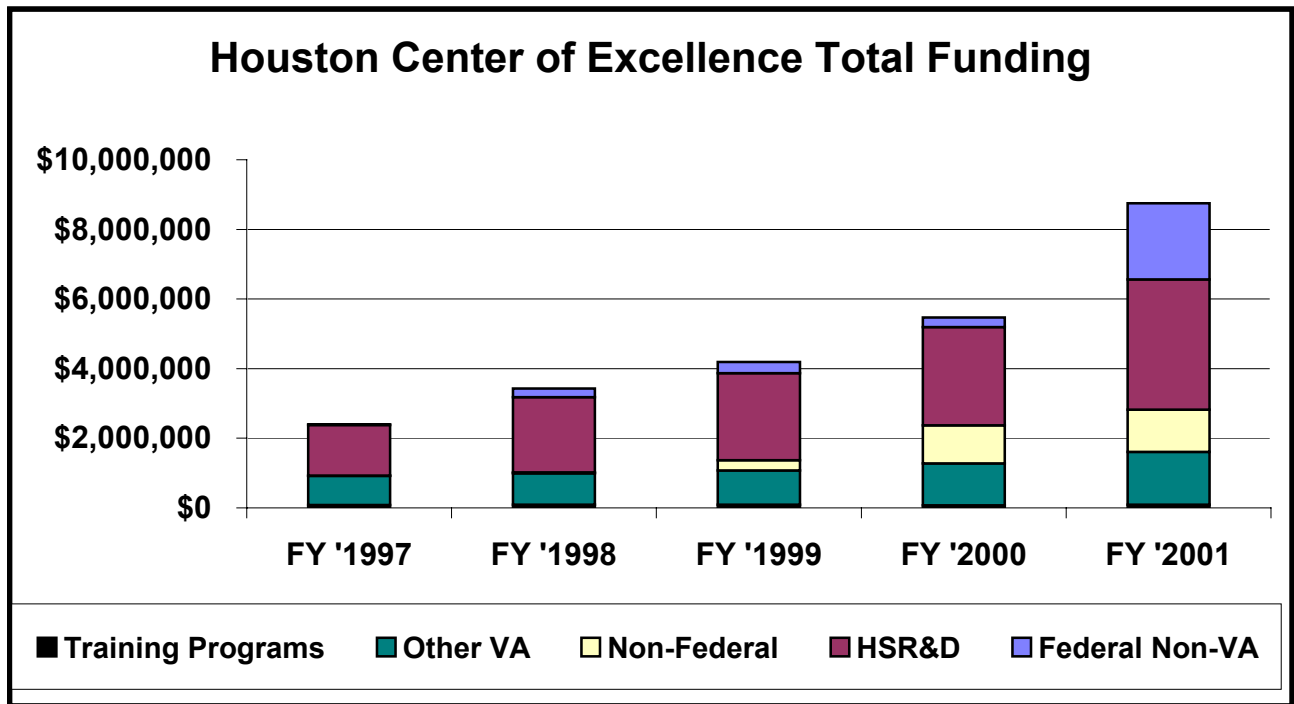
3.1 Budget Information (Table 2)

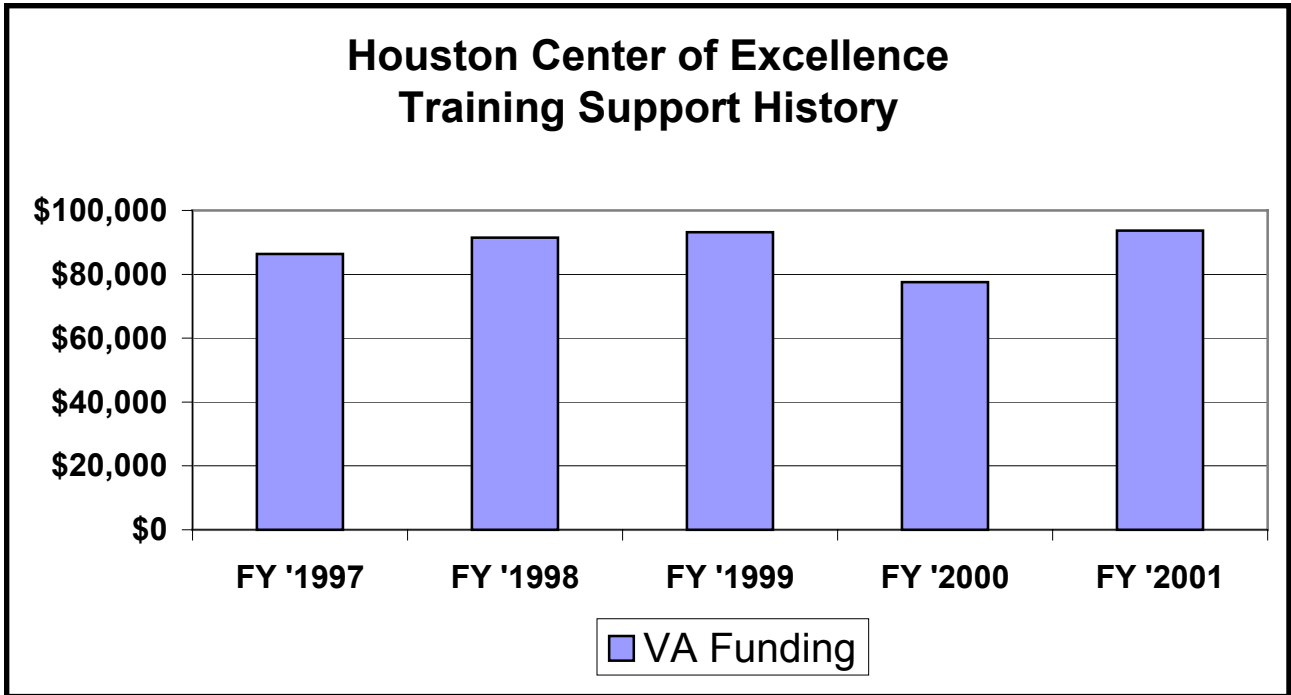
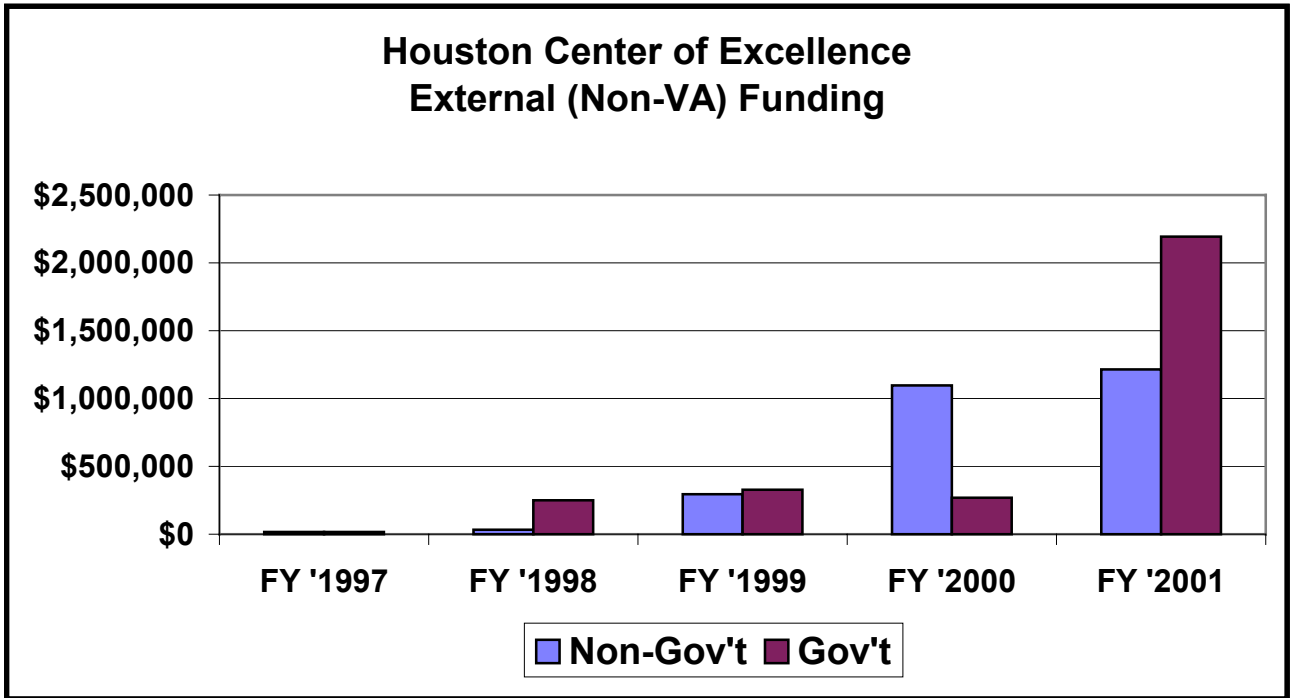
Houston Center of Excellence Budget Information

Fiscal Year Funding						Number Of Projects				
	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
Funding Source(s)										
HSR&D										
Core	\$549,999	\$531,374	\$550,000	\$571,551	\$825,000	1	1	1	1	1
Supplemental Funds	\$14,292	\$393,134	\$76,518	\$313,437	\$188,500	1	1	1	2	1
IIR	\$167,944	\$411,018	\$482,542	\$659,167	\$777,881	3	4	8	7	5
SDR	\$586,306	\$323,532	\$330,326	\$170,067	\$69,525	6	3	3	3	1
MDRC	\$0	\$84,961	\$72,353	\$0	\$0	0	1	1	0	0
Career Development	\$75,223	\$214,293	\$573,907	\$641,125	\$862,827	2	3	5	4	6
Career Scientist	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$53,542	0	0	0	0	1
AIA	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$13,774	\$55,096	0	0	0	1	1
NRI	\$53,779	\$64,051	\$38,439	\$0	\$0	1	1	1	0	0
LIP - HSR&D	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$19,100	0	0	0	1	1
QUERI Center	\$0	\$135,765	\$280,080	\$237,500	\$350,000	0	2	3	1	1
QUERI Projects	\$0	\$0	\$53,400	\$179,000	\$447,300	0	0	1	1	2
Special Projects	\$0	\$0	\$40,075	\$0	\$34,600	0	0	1	0	2
Other Center	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$10,000	\$0	0	0	0	1	0
USA	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$25,000	\$50,000	0	0	0	1	1
Sub Total	\$1,447,543	\$2,158,128	\$2,497,640	\$2,820,621	\$3,733,371	14	16	25	23	23
Other VA										
CSP	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$140,990	0	0	0	0	1
MDRC	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$34,293	\$0	0	0	0	1	0
Other	\$282,123	\$429,489	\$99,800	\$93,307	\$79,843	6	4	1	2	2
Core - Facility Contributions	\$547,656	\$467,507	\$581,631	\$480,634	\$712,756	1	1	1	1	1
VISN	\$0	\$0	\$300,805	\$593,850	\$583,154	0	0	3	7	7
Sub Total	\$829,779	\$896,996	\$982,236	\$1,202,084	\$1,516,743	7	5	5	11	11
Federal Non-VA										
NIH	\$16,507	\$249,522	\$280,489	\$93,483	\$646,719	1	2	3	3	7
AHRQ	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,667	\$1,267,278	0	0	0	1	3
Other	\$0	\$0	\$47,968	\$174,497	\$279,778	0	0	1	4	4
Sub Total	\$16,507	\$249,522	\$328,457	\$269,647	\$2,193,775	1	2	4	8	14
Non-Federal										
Foundations	\$0	\$13,462	\$203,693	\$176,573	\$252,264	0	1	6	9	9
Commercial	\$15,750	\$19,610	\$90,453	\$46,512	\$230,033	2	2	4	6	7
Other	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$26,667	\$108,883	0	0	0	2	6
Core - University	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$846,547	\$624,374	0	0	0	1	2
Sub Total	\$15,750	\$33,072	\$294,146	\$1,096,299	\$1,215,554	2	3	10	18	24

Training Programs										
OAA	\$86,399	\$91,508	\$93,218	\$77,508	\$93,661	1	1	1	1	1
Sub Total	\$86,399	\$91,508	\$93,218	\$77,508	\$93,661	1	1	1	1	1
Totals	\$2,395,978	\$3,429,226	\$4,195,697	\$5,466,159	\$8,753,104	25	27	45	61	73

3.2 Funding Charts (Figures 1-4)





4 Research Projects

Our research agenda has remained primarily focused on the assessment of quality and the determinants of utilization.

The major objectives of our quality studies are: (1) to determine the degree to which administrative databases can be used to assess quality and outcomes; (2) to develop ways of helping patients choose among alternative treatment plans by improving methods of assessing patient desires, expectations and values; and (3) to develop a comprehensive model of quality of care that integrates patient choices and the provision of technically proficient care.

The major objectives of our utilization studies are: (1) to develop and evaluate measures of utilization and costs that better explain health care use over time; (2) to identify the determinants of health care utilization and costs; (3) to evaluate the cost-effectiveness of alternative types of care; and (4) to develop tools to forecast VA utilization and costs.

In total, the Center was involved in 67 funded research projects and programs during this reporting period. Funding was initiated in FY01 for 28 new projects and programs, funding was completed for 19 but 10 of the projects are still in the analysis or final report preparation stage. Selected projects are described below (project narratives are listed in the same order as Section 4.1).

The Center continues as the Coordinating Center for the Chronic Heart Failure VA Quality Enhancement Research Initiative (CHF-QUERI). The goal of the CHF-QUERI is to create measurable, rapid, and sustainable improvements in quality of care and health outcomes for veterans with heart failure. Dr. Nelda P. Wray serves as Research Co-Chair of the Committee and Director of the Coordinating Center, and Douglas Mann MD, Chief of the Cardiology Section at the Houston VA Medical Center, serves as Clinical Co-Chair. The Coordinating Center implements policy set by the Executive Committee. The CHF QUERI reorganized during the fiscal year into three Core areas. Dr. Nancy Petersen leads the Database Core, Dr. Anita Deswal leads the New Research Core, and Dr. Michael Johnson leads the Information, Dissemination and Translation Core. The CHF QUERI has been solidifying methodology and findings from the CHF Cohort, a nationwide database of approximately 280,000 heart failure patients in the VA. The Coordinating Center is currently planning the translation projects to disseminate the research findings to improve care.

Dr. Nelda Wray was awarded a three-year grant titled, "Reducing readmission rates in patients with CHF." This CHF QUERI Coordinating Center (CHF QUERI-CC) project, in collaboration with Veterans Integrated Service Network (VISN) 16, has the goal of developing, implementing, and monitoring an intervention at several VISN 16 facilities, designed to improve the coordination of care of patients with CHF, reduce hospital readmission rates and generate substantial savings. The project is in the data collection stage.

Dr. Laura Petersen is the co-PI for the project titled, "Racial Variations in Cardiac Procedures: Do Health Beliefs Matter?" The purpose of this study is to prospectively assess patient health beliefs and preferences, physician attitudes, and clinical factors as correlates of racial variation in cardiac procedure use for patients with acute coronary syndromes. The data collection phase has been completed and the study is in the data analysis stage.

Dr. Howard Gordon (PI) and Dr. Deborah Paterniti (Co-PI) conducted the project, "Health-Seeking Behaviors and Treatment Selection in Patients with Coronary Disease." This project interviewed patients with coronary disease to elucidate their decisional processes for seeking care and accepting recommendations. The study will provide insight into whether decision-making varies by race and ethnicity. The study is in the data collection stage.

Dr. Robert Morgan was awarded a three-year IIR project titled, "Medicare HMO Enrollment and VA Use by Minority and Low Income Veterans." This study has two specific aims: Aim 1: To examine individual-level factors affecting enrollment by minority and low-income veterans in HMO plans, as well as use of medical care and satisfaction with care by these VA users compared to White and higher-income

veterans, and to veterans who do not use the VA medical system. Aim 2: To examine patterns of enrollment in Medicare HMOs by different race/ethnic and income-based sub-groups of VA users, and to describe changes in HMO enrollment by VA users following the implementation of the BBA provisions. In additions to this award Dr. Morgan also received a Research Experience Award, which will allow Dr. Nora Osemene to gain research experience while working on this project.

Dr. Terri Menke conducted the project, "Improving the HIV/AIDS Immunology Case Registry," in collaboration with the HIV QUERI Coordinating Center at the San Diego VAMC, under the direction of Sam Bozzette, MD, PhD. The project will assist the HIV QUERI to validate and improve the HIV Registry.

Dr. Nancy Jo Dunn leads a grant supported by the VA HSR&D Service, titled, "Treatment of Depression in Patients with PTSD." This project is a randomized controlled trial comparing the clinical efficacy and cost-effectiveness of Self-Management Therapy (SMT) versus Psychoeducational Group Therapy (PGT) in veterans who have concurrent PTSD and depression. The grant is unique for its attention to the treatment of PTSD within the context of coexisting conditions. The major objective of the study is to evaluate the impact of SMT and PGT on clinical outcomes and on the use of hospital resources acutely and over an extended follow-up period. During the fiscal year, plans were initiated to expand the study to include female veterans. This study was awarded a one-year extension and is in the data collection and data analysis stage.

Dr. Karon Cook, an affiliate investigator of the Center, conducts the project, "Development of a Flexilevel Scale of Shoulder Function." The purpose of the study is to develop the scale consisting of three subsets of items targeted toward high, medium and low shoulder functioning. The new scale will measure effectively and efficiently across the entire range of shoulder functioning. The developmental form of the scale is complete and the project is in the data analysis stage.

Dr. Kimberly O'Malley was awarded a three year SDR project titled, "Center for Excellence in Measurement: Development of a Resource Website for Health Services Researchers." The objective of this project is to serve as a resource for improving the overall quality of measurement in the health services research community. This study is in the start-up phase.

Dr. Mark Kunik received pilot project funding from VISN 16 MIRREC and Baylor College of Medicine titled, "A Conceptual Model of Disruptive Behavior: A Qualitative Approach." The major goal of this project is to inform a theoretical conceptual model of behavioral disturbances with information from multiple stakeholders.

Dr. Lynn Snow also received pilot project funding from VISN 16 MIRREC titled, "Development of a Pain Assessment Instrument for Use with Severely Demented Individuals." The specific aims of the proposed research are: (Aim 1) Develop the content and format for an observational pain instrument, using input from an expert panel; (Aim 2) Demonstrate patient recruitment at two different nursing homes; (Aim 3) Evaluate the clinical feasibility and preliminary psychometric properties of the instrument through pilot testing.

Dr. Laura Petersen also received two VA contracts from VISN's 6, 12 and 20. The first contract with VISN 20 is titled, "Risk-Adjusted VERA Project." The goal of this project is to assess the budget impacts at the Network level of changing to a health-based budget allocation model in the Veterans Health Administration. The second contract with VISN 6 and 12 is titled, "Implementation of a Facility-Level Health-Based Capitation Method for VISNs 6 and 12." The correct methodology for resource allocation within the Department of Veterans Affairs Networks (i.e. from the 22 regional networks to individual facilities) is controversial. This research, contracted by the VA, examines the use of risk adjustment based on illness severity for developing capitation methods and rates in the VA system. Both of the projects are in the data analysis stage.

Dr. Carol M. Ashton was awarded a five-year program grant from the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality entitled, "Racial and Ethnic Variations in Medical Interactions" toward the end of FY00. This program award, consisting of six projects and three cores, will assess the extent to which remediable problems in doctor-patient communication result in racial and ethnic variations in the use of medical

services and in health outcomes. The leaders of the projects are all Center investigators. Five of the projects are in the data collection stage. Dr. Ashton also received a minority supplement grant from AHRQ entitled, "Variation in Office-Based Treatment of Opiate Abuse." Dr. Hermenia Palacio is the Co-Principal Investigator for this grant. The proposed 4-year project will focus on evaluating racial and ethnic variations in the impact of recently passed federal legislation enabling physicians to dispense Schedule III, IV, or V drugs for maintenance or detoxification treatment of opiate-addicted patients.

Dr. Laurence McCullough, an affiliate investigator of the Center, led the project, "Enhancing the Autonomy of Vulnerable Subjects in Research", funded by the NIH. The study examines the ethical issues involved in patient informed consent in the research process. This study is in the data analysis phase.

Dr. Kimberly O'Malley was awarded a conference grant by AHRQ to plan and conduct the national research conference, "Techniques for Handling Bias in Health Services Research." The conference secured 15 national experts who covered topics ranging from bias handling techniques, propensity scores, multiple imputation, Bayesian analyses, differential item functioning, multilevel modeling and mixture modeling. Approximately 100 researchers attended the conference in November 2000 in Houston, Texas. The conference was supported in part by the Veterans Affairs Health Services Research and Development Service, Baylor College of Medicine, Pfizer, Inc., and AHRQ. The conference updated health services researchers in the field by providing training in the newest and most advanced techniques for handling selection, information and confounding bias.

Dr. Rebecca Beyth also received funding from the AHA for the project, "Perioperative Management of Anticoagulant Therapy in Patients with Chronic Atrial Fibrillation." The study will first determine the extent of adverse outcomes in a cohort of patients with chronic atrial fibrillation who undergo major surgery, and secondly examine the clinical strategies used in the perioperative management of anticoagulant therapy in these patients. The study is in the data analysis and final report write-up stage.

Dr. Laura Petersen continues to lead the study funded by the American Heart Association into health-related quality of life in patients with acute coronary syndromes. The project is titled, "Racial Differences in Health-Related Quality of Life Among Potential Candidates for Revascularization." The presence and magnitude of change over time in health-related quality of life among those patients who were candidates for revascularization will be assessed using measures of health related quality of life at 6 and 12 months. The study is in the data collection stage.

Dr. Nancy Petersen is near completion of her American Heart Association project titled, "Resource Utilization and Outcomes in Patients with Chronic Heart Failure," which was extended until December 2001. The purpose of this study is to describe the patterns of utilization of inpatient, outpatient, and nursing home care among a large, nationwide cohort of veterans with chronic heart failure (CHF) who are identified based on their use of outpatient services. The study is in the final report preparation stage.

Dr. Linda Rabeneck has completed enrollment of patients in her NIH funded project, "Planning Studies for a Clinical Trial in Dyspepsia." The study evaluates the psychometric properties of the Severity of Dyspepsia Assessment (SODA) scale, a new disease-specific outcome measure for dyspepsia, and pilots patient recruitment, enrollment, and follow-up for a randomized trial of dyspepsia. The results from this study has produced five presentations, four abstracts, four publications and four manuscripts under review.

Dr. Tracie Collins is supported by a SmithKline Beecham Junior Faculty Award for Diabetes and a Robert Wood Johnson Foundation award in her project, "Racial Variation in the Epidemiology and Outcomes of Peripheral Arterial Disease". The purpose of the project is to determine the prevalence of PAD in a racially and ethnically diverse population. The study is in the data collection phase.

Dr. Margaret Byrne was awarded a seed money grant titled, "Extent of Coverage and Availability of Screening Colonoscopy Among Privately Insured Individuals," from the American Cancer Society. The main objective of this study is to determine what proportion of individuals have insurance which will cover screening colonoscopy, and what requirements may be necessary for obtaining coverage.

Dr. Rebecca Beyth conducted the project, "Improving the Use of Antiocoagulant Therapy in Older Patients," funded by the NIH. This project seeks to provide information about risk factors that are potentially modifiable through interventions targeted to reduce the risk of warfarin-related bleeding. The study is in the data validation, data analysis and final report write-up stage.

The Center has many career development awardees from various funding agencies. The following people receive funding on a research career development award from VA HSR&D: Lynn Snow, PhD - Associate Investigator Award, Paul Haidet, MD, MPH and Hashem El-Serag, MD, MPH - Research Career Development Award, Laura Petersen, MD, MPH, Mark Kunik, MD, MPH and Howard Gordon, MD - Advanced Research Career Development Award, and Terri Menke, PhD - Research Career Scientist Award. Anita Deswal, MD receives funding on a research career development award from the VA Cooperative Studies program. The following people receive funding on a research career development award from the National Institutes of Health: Rebecca Beyth, MD, MS - K08 Career Development Award and Linda Rabeneck, MD, MPH - K24 Career Development Award.

4.1 Research Projects and Programs (Table 3)

Funded Research Projects and Programs Houston Center of Excellence

Agency ID	Project Title	VA Investigator - Role	Type / Source	Current FY Amount	Total Amount	Start	End	Status
HSR&D								
AIA 00-001	Associate Investigator Program Award	A. Snow PhD - PI	HSR&D	\$55,096	\$112,360	7/2000	6/2002	Career Award
CHF 98-001	QUERI on Chronic Heart Failure	N. P. Wray MD MPH - PI M. M. Byrne PhD - Co-INV M. L. Johnson PhD - Co-INV N. J. Petersen PhD - Co-INV D. L. Mann MD - Clinical Coordinator	QUERI	\$350,000	\$1,366,078	6/1998	7/2003	QUERI Center
CHT 01-036	Reducing Readmission Rates in Patients with	N. P. Wray MD MPH - PI M. M. Byrne PhD - Co-INV A. Deswal MD - Co-INV N. J. Petersen PhD - Co-INV	QUERI	\$321,000	\$500,000	4/2001	3/2003	Data Collection
ECN 99-017	Health Economics Resource Center	T. J. Menke PhD - Co-PI	HSR&D	\$0	\$30,000	10/1999	9/2002	Data Collection
ECV 97-022	Racial Variations in Cardiac Procedures: Do Health Beliefs Matter?	L. A. Petersen MD MPH - Co-PI	HSR&D	\$159,470	\$321,163	10/1998	9/2001	Analysis
ECV 98-100	Health Seeking and Treatment Selection in Patients with Coronary Disease	H. S. Gordon MD SB - PI D. A. Paterniti PhD - Co-PI N. P. Wray MD MPH - Co-INV	HSR&D	\$154,800	\$402,900	8/1999	1/2002	Data Collection
HBU 01-113	Medicare HMO Enrollment and VA Use by Minority and Low Income Veterans	R. O. Morgan PhD - PI	Research Experience Award Program	\$34,600	\$34,600	3/2001	2/2002	Other Center
HII 99-049	Determinants of Adherence to Antiretroviral Therapy and Impact on Outcomes	T. J. Menke PhD - PI C. B. Anderson PhD - Co-INV D. A. Paterniti PhD - Co-INV L. Rabeneck MD MPH - Co-INV J. Soucek PhD -	HSR&D	\$126,300	\$370,400	10/1999	9/2002	Data Collection
HIS 99-039	Improving the HIV/AIDS Immunology Case Registry	T. J. Menke PhD -	HSR&D	\$19,100	\$57,300	10/1999	9/2002	Data Collection

**Funded Research Projects and Programs
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Agency ID	Project Title	VA Investigator - Role	Type / Source	Current FY Amount	Total Amount	Start	End	Status
HSR&D								
IIR 20-052-1	Medicare HMO Enrollment and VA Use by Minority and Low Income Veterans	R. O. Morgan PhD - PI M. M. Byrne PhD - Co-INV L. A. Petersen MD MPH - Co-INV	HSR&D	\$217,000	\$705,100	10/2000	9/2003	Data Collection
IIR 95-074	Treatment of Depression in Patients with PTSD	N. Dunn PhD - PI T. J. Menke PhD - L. P. Rehm PhD - J. Soucek PhD -	HSR&D	\$210,511	\$912,098	10/1997	9/2002	Data Collection
IIR 98-077	Development of a Flexilevel Scale of Shoulder Functioning	K. F. Cook PhD MA - PI	HSR&D	\$36,100	\$135,515	1/1999	9/2001	Analysis
RCD 00-013-2	Clinical Outcomes and Resource Utilization in Gastrointestinal Disease	H. B. El-Serag MD MPH - Awardee	HSR&D	\$176,800	\$537,513	1/2001	12/2003	Career Award
RCD 00-030-1	Understanding Ethnic Variations in Physician-Patient Communication	P. Haidet MD MPH - Awardee	HSR&D	\$25,015	\$360,000	8/2001	7/2004	Career Award
RCD 95-306	Advanced Research Career Development	L. A. Petersen MD MPH - Awardee	HSR&D	\$172,788	\$504,000	7/1999	6/2002	Career Award
RCD 97-319	Research Career Development	H. S. Gordon MD SB - Awardee	HSR&D	\$118,252	\$448,582	7/1998	6/2001	Career Award
RCD 97-319-1	Understanding and Eliminating Racial/Ethnic Variations in Health Care-Advanced Career Development	H. S. Gordon MD SB - Awardee	HSR&D	\$39,417	\$432,024	7/2001	6/2004	Career Award
RCD 98-351	Health Service Utilization in Patients with Dementia and Psychiatric Comorbidity	M. E. Kunik MD MPH - Awardee	HSR&D	\$184,125	\$618,968	7/1999	6/2002	Career Award
RCS 00-002	Research Career Scientist Award	T. J. Menke PhD - Awardee	HSR&D	\$53,542	\$53,542	1/2001	12/2003	Career Award

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Agency ID	Project Title	VA Investigator - Role	Type / Source	Current FY Amount	Total Amount	Start	End	Status
HSR&D								
SDR 01-044	The eXpedient Psychometric Education Research Team in Houston	K. J. O'Malley PhD - PI N. P. Wray MD MPH - Co-PI C. M. Ashton MD MPH - Co-INV K. F. Cook PhD MA - Co-INV R. O. Morgan PhD - Co-INV A. Snow PhD - Co-INV	HSR&D	\$69,525	\$623,300	7/2001	6/2004	Data Collection
USA 00-001	Under Secretary's Award FY2000	N. P. Wray MD MPH - PI	HSR&D	\$50,000	\$150,000	4/2000	3/2003	Career Award
Other VA								
CRCD 712B	Understanding Racial Variations in Response to Drug Therapy for Heart Failure	A. Deswal MD - Awardee	VA Cooperative Studies Program	\$140,990	\$405,000	1/2001	12/2003	Career Award
IL 12-96-007	Myocardial Infarction and CABG Long Term Follow-up Study (EPC 97-069)	L. A. Petersen MD MPH - PI	ERIC	\$0	\$191,436	10/1997	9/2002	Data Collection
XVA 33-010	Northwest Network Provider Profiling Project	C. M. Ashton MD MPH - PI N. J. Petersen PhD - Co-INV	VISN 20	\$79,843	\$355,928	6/1998	9/2001	Analysis
XVA 33-011	National VA Provider Profiling Project	C. M. Ashton MD MPH - PI	VISN 20	\$222,144	\$357,962	10/1998	9/2001	Completed
XVA 33-019	Developing a Conceptual Model of Disruptive Behavior	M. E. Kunik MD MPH - PI	VISN 16 MIRREC	\$14,950	\$14,950	10/2000	9/2001	Final Report Preparation
XVA 33-020	Risk-Adjusted VERA DBAF Project	L. A. Petersen MD MPH - PI M. M. Byrne PhD - Co-INV N. P. Wray MD MPH - Co-INV	VISN 20	\$161,423	\$161,423	11/2000	10/2001	Analysis
XVA 33-021	Implementation of a Facility-Level Health-Based Capitation Method for VISNs 6 & 12	L. A. Petersen MD MPH - PI M. M. Byrne PhD - Co-INV	VISNs 6 & 12	\$102,467	\$102,467	2/2001	1/2002	Analysis

**Funded Research Projects and Programs
Houston Center of Excellence**

Agency ID	Project Title	VA Investigator - Role	Type / Source	Current FY Amount	Total Amount	Start	End	Status
Other VA								
XVA 33-022	Development of a Pain Assessment Instrument for Use with Severely Demented Individuals	A. Snow PhD - PI	VISN 16 MIRREC	\$14,970	\$14,970	10/2000	9/2001	Analysis
XVA 33-023	Contract on DCG Support	L. A. Petersen MD MPH - PI	VISN 5	\$58,000	\$58,000	11/2001	1/2002	Analysis
XVA 33-024	MIRECC grant monies	A. Snow PhD - PI	VISN 16 MIRECC	\$9,200	\$9,200	7/2001	6/2002	Start Up Activities
Federal Non-VA								
1 P30 DK56338	Center for Gastrointestinal Development, Infection, and	L. Rabeneck MD MPH - Co-INV J. Soucek PhD -	National Institutes of Health	\$79,659	\$417,862	12/2000	11/2005	Data Collection
DK 98-019	Study of Health Outcomes of Weight-Loss (SHOW) Trial	T. J. Menke PhD -	NIH	\$8,352	\$55,147	9/1999	9/2008	Start Up Activities
K08 AG00712	Improving the Use of Anticoagulant Therapy in Older Patients	R. J. Beyth MD MS - PI C. M. Ashton MD MPH - Co-INV	National Institute on Aging	\$134,276	\$315,570	7/1997	8/2002	Career Award
K24 DK59318-01	Measurement and Therapy of Uninvestigated Dyspepsia	L. Rabeneck MD MPH - Awardee	National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases	\$119,302	\$596,510	9/2001	8/2006	Career Award
NAG 9-1153	Protecting Scientific Integrity Through Disclosure of Conflicts of Interest	B. A. Brody PhD - PI C. B. Anderson PhD - Co-INV N. P. Wray MD MPH - Co-INV	NASA	\$25,341	\$280,680	7/1999	6/2002	Data Collection
P01 HS10876-01	Racial & Ethnic Variation in Medical Interactions	C. M. Ashton MD MPH - PI	AHRQ	\$1,030,618	\$5,281,166	9/2000	8/2005	Data Collection
P01 HS10876-02S1	Variation in Office-Based Treatment of Opiate Abuse - Supplement to	C. M. Ashton MD MPH - PI H. Palacio MD MPH - Co-PI	AHRQ	\$216,660	\$884,045	9/2001	8/2005	Start Up Activities

**Funded Research Projects and Programs
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Agency ID	Project Title	VA Investigator - Role	Type / Source	Current FY Amount	Total Amount	Start	End	Status
Federal Non-VA								
R01 NR4736	Enhancing the Autonomy of Vulnerable Subjects of Research	L. B. McCullough PhD - PI C. B. Anderson PhD - Co-INV B. A. Brody PhD - N. P. Wray MD MPH - Co-INV	NIH	\$19,903	\$266,806	9/1997	8/2001	Analysis
R03 CA90185-01	Prevention through Physical Activity: Parental Influence	C. B. Anderson PhD - PI	National Cancer Institute	\$50,000	\$100,000	4/2001	3/2003	Start Up Activities
R03 MH64033-01	Severely Demented Individuals: Assessing Their	A. Snow PhD - PI C. M. Ashton MD MPH - Co-INV M. E. Kunik MD MPH - Co-INV K. J. O'Malley PhD - Co-INV	National Institute of Mental Health	\$50,000	\$50,000	9/2001	8/2002	Start Up Activities
R04 CCR61880-02	Cost Analysis of Secondary Conditions in Disabled Women	M. M. Byrne PhD - Co-INV K. J. O'Malley PhD - Co-INV N. J. Petersen PhD - Co-INV M. E. Suarez-Almazor MD PhD - Co-INV N. P. Wray MD MPH - Co-INV	Center for Disease Control	\$230,424	\$747,538	9/2000	9/2003	Data Collection
R13 HS10935-01	Techniques for Handling Bias in Health Services Outcomes Research	K. J. O'Malley PhD - PI C. M. Ashton MD MPH - Co-INV N. P. Wray MD MPH - Co-INV	AHRQ	\$20,000	\$20,000	9/2000	8/2001	Completed
SES 9973600	Financial Incentives in Health: Understanding the Ethical Implications	M. M. Byrne PhD - PI B. A. Brody PhD -	NSF	\$15,661	\$47,968	8/1999	1/2001	Completed
Non-Federal								
XNV 33-023	Educational Fund	N. P. Wray MD MPH - PI K. J. O'Malley PhD - Co-INV	Pfizer	\$24,883	\$43,768	10/1999	12/2000	Completed
0060054Y	Perioperative Management of Anticoagulant Therapy in Patients with Chronic Atrial Fibrillation	R. J. Beyth MD MS - PI C. M. Ashton MD MPH - Co-INV N. J. Petersen PhD - Co-INV	AHA	\$43,866	\$106,779	7/2000	6/2002	Data Collection

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Houston Center of Excellence**

Agency ID	Project Title	VA Investigator - Role	Type / Source	Current FY Amount	Total Amount	Start	End	Status
Non-Federal								
9970113N	Racial Differences in Health-Related Quality of Life Among Potential Candidates for Revascularization.	L. A. Petersen MD MPH - Co-PI	American Heart Association	\$0	\$411,209	1/1999	12/2001	Data Collection
9970201N	Resource Utilization and Outcomes in Patients with Chronic Heart Failure	N. J. Petersen PhD - PI C. M. Ashton MD MPH - Co-INV J. M. Geraci MD MPH - Co-INV J. Soucek PhD -	American Heart Association	\$29,801	\$201,279	1/1999	12/2001	Analysis
D16-HP-00036-01	Clinicians Perceptions of the Dimensions of Patients' Problems	H. S. Gordon MD SB - Consultant	HRSA	\$3,000	\$9,000	5/2001	4/2004	Data Collection
PG000501	Veterans Affairs Databases to Describe VA users	N. P. Wray MD MPH - PI K. J. O'Malley PhD - Co-INV N. J. Petersen PhD - Co-INV A. Snow PhD - Co-INV	Pfizer	\$100,000	\$100,000	6/2001	5/2002	Data Collection
XNV 33-011	The Role of Primary Care in Determining Outcomes Among Older People with HIV	L. Rabeneck MD MPH - PI	Robert Wood Johnson Foundation/ University of	\$25,445	\$36,601	4/1999	7/2001	Analysis
XNV 33-014	Self-Perceptions as Determinants of Physical Activity in Early Adolescence	C. B. Anderson PhD - PI	Cancer Research Foundation of America	\$0	\$32,000	4/1999	10/2000	Completed
XNV 33-016	Junior Faculty Award for Diabetes	T. C. Collins MD MPH -	SmithKline Beecham Pharmaceuticals	\$0	\$100,000	7/1999	6/2001	Career Award
XNV 33-019	Mentoring Fellowship	P. Haidet MD MPH - Project Director	SGIM	\$0	\$2,814	2/2000	12/2000	Training Program
XNV 33-020	Self-Perceptions as Determinants of Physical Activity in Early Adolescence	C. B. Anderson PhD - PI	American Cancer Society/Baylor College of Medicine	\$1,871	\$25,000	6/2000	10/2001	Data Collection
XNV 33-021	Epidemiology of Hepatitis C Virus Infection Among U.S. Veterans: Clinical and Economic Impact	H. B. El-Serag MD MPH - PI	Schering-Plough	\$61,947	\$61,947	7/2000	6/2001	Analysis

**Funded Research Projects and Programs
Houston Center of Excellence**

Agency ID	Project Title	VA Investigator - Role	Type / Source	Current FY Amount	Total Amount	Start	End	Status
Non-Federal								
XNV 33-022	Students' Perceptions of Medical School Support for Patient-Centered	P. Haidet MD MPH - PI A. Snow PhD - Co-INV J. Soucek PhD - N. P. Wray MD MPH - Co-INV	Bayer Institute for Healthcare Communication	\$20,000	\$20,000	9/2000	8/2001	Data Collection
XNV 33-024	Racial Variation in the Epidemiology and Outcomes of Peripheral Arterial Disease	T. C. Collins MD MPH -	Robert Wood Johnson Foundation	\$101,281	\$335,860	1/2000	12/2003	Data Collection
XNV 33-025	Planning Studies for a Clinical Trial in Dyspepsia	L. Rabeneck MD MPH - PI	Astrazeneca	\$31,586	\$81,400	1/1998	12/2001	Data Collection
XNV 33-026	Support CHF Comprehensive Care Program	N. P. Wray MD MPH - PI	Pfizer	\$5,000	\$5,000	8/2001	7/2002	Supplemental Funding
XNV 33-027	Investigating Childhood GERD as a Risk Factor for Complicated GERD in Adults	H. B. El-Serag MD MPH - PI	American College of Gastroenterology	\$25,000	\$25,000	7/2001	6/2002	Data Collection
XNV 33-028	The Prevalence and Determinants of GERD: A Population-Based Endoscopic Study	H. B. El-Serag MD MPH - PI	ASGE	\$50,000	\$50,000	1/2001	12/2002	Data Collection
XNV 33-029	Astrazeneca Educational Funds	L. Rabeneck MD MPH - PI	Astrazeneca	\$6,500	\$6,500	7/2000	6/2001	Supplemental Funding
XNV 33-031	SODA Scales Contract with Pfizer	L. Rabeneck MD MPH - PI	Pfizer	\$25,000	\$25,000	12/2000	11/2001	Data Collection
XNV 33-032	SGIM Governance Structure for the ATRC Steering Committee	R. J. Beyth MD MS - PI	SGIM	\$6,000	\$6,000	1/2001	12/2001	Manuscripts
XNV 33-033	Childhood GERD as a Risk Factor for GERD in Adults	H. B. El-Serag MD MPH - PI	Astrazeneca	\$30,000	\$30,000	5/2001	4/2002	Data Collection
Training Programs								
TPP 97-004	Training Program for Fellows (post Ph.D.) at Center of Excellence - Houston	C. M. Ashton MD MPH - Director	OAA	\$93,661	\$1,038,563	10/1993	9/2001	Training Program

5 Research Products and Dissemination

For the VA, communicating science news is important because most all research or staff support is publicly funded. Research from the Houston Center for Quality of Care & Utilization is disseminated in top medical and research journals, and at national and international conferences. For the FY 01 reporting period, the Center staff produced 69 publications in peer-reviewed journals and 40 articles are in press. Seven books or book chapters and eight technical reports were published. Publications include research published in *New England Journal of Medicine*, *JAMA*, and *Medical Care*. Our Center investigators are recognized for their insightful and challenging talks at regional and national conferences. In May 2001, the Center was well represented at the 24th Annual Society for General Internal Medicine (SGIM) conference in San Diego, where investigators presented their research. Earlier in the year, as part of the Center's 10th anniversary celebration, Dr. Carol M. Ashton presented "Problems in Doctor-Patient Communication" and Dr. Nelda P. Wray presented "Arthroscopic Treatment of the Knee: A Prospective, Randomized, Double-blind Placebo Controlled Trial," at the Baylor College of Medicine Grand Rounds. Scientific symposia were also conducted the Houston VA Medical Center as part of this research dissemination effort.

In addition to traditional dissemination, the Center has created an innovative initiative to support its EXCEED research program designed to provide dissemination 'right from the start'. As part of the EXCEED initiative, the Center designed the Information Dissemination and Educational/Academic Liaison (IDEAL) Core to support the "Racial and Ethnic Variation in the Medical Interaction" research program (Carol M. Ashton, PI), sponsored by AHRQ. The IDEAL Core, directed by Frank Martin, MS, relies on a Community Education and Outreach (CEO) Network, a group of community experts for guidance and features numerous activities including: news media contact, and research dissemination via community education forums on how to improve doctor-patient communication. Other dissemination includes Dr. Kimberly Wristers' grant from AHRQ to plan and conduct the national research conference, "Techniques for Handling Bias in Health Services Research." The conference, held in November 7-9, 2000 in Houston, Texas, brought nationally recognized researchers from several disciplines to disseminate research and methodological approaches on three main sources of bias - selection bias, information bias, and confounding. The conference was supported in part by the Veterans Affairs Health Services Research and Development Service, Baylor College of Medicine, Pfizer, Inc., and AHRQ. Approximately 130 paid registrants and 14 leading experts attended.

As a formal part of Center operations, the Center encourages mass media coverage of its research findings and works to ensure that media reports are as accurate as possible. At HCQCUS internal news about published research findings, research grants and merit awards is translated for public information use. Public information or public relations is described as a sustained effort to manage and convey information about an organization's mission and values to target audiences or stakeholders. For health science and health research topics, there are many good reasons to communicate science and research news, but to do so successfully requires planning, identification of target audiences, an analysis of media environment, and the skill to effectively translate research information for lay-audiences. Public information for mass media and lay-audiences raises awareness about our research for local and national audiences. In FY 01, Dr. Laura Petersen's research on VA versus non-VA care garnered significant mass media attention (Petersen L, Normand S, Daley J, McNeil B. Outcome of myocardial infarction in Veterans Health Administration patients as compared with Medicare patients. *N Engl J Med* 2000). AP, AP Radio, Reuters Health, *UPI*, *USA Today*, *The Los Angeles Times*, *CNN Interactive*, *St. Petersburg Times*, *US Medicine*, and *Federal Practitioner* carried articles. Local media coverage included interviews with KPFT-FM (Houston), KGBC-AM (Galveston, TX), and KTRK-TV (ABC affiliate, Houston).

The Center generates a quarterly newsletter, the *Research Monitor*, produced using PageMaker 6.5 and printed through the Government Printing Office. The newsletter is distributed to over 2500 academics, scholars, and researchers, both VA and non-VA. The newsletter features current research updates and in-depth essays by our most talented scholars. The *Research Monitor* has featured articles by Dr. Robert Morgan on Medicare versus VA utilization, Dr. Laura Petersen on quality of care research, and Drs. Wray and Ashton on the founding and history of the Houston VA HSR&D. Finally, the Center disseminates

information to audiences via two web sites, a Houston VA HSR&D web site and the Baylor College of Medicine, Section of Health Services Research web site.

5.1 Bibliography

Journal Articles

1. Anderson C, Farris G. Athletic Identity Among 8th Grade Adolescents: Definitions, Ratings, and Physical Activity. *Medicine & Science in Sports & Exercise* 2001; 33: S112.
Project Number: HFP 90-020
Project Title: Physical Activity
PI: Cheryl B. Anderson, PhD
COE: Houston
Awardee: None
2. Beyth R. Commentary on 'The recurrence rate of venous thromboembolism after a first or second deep vein thrombosis episode was high'. *ACP Journal Club* 2000; 5: 188.
Project Number: AG00712-02
Project Title: Improving the Use of Anticoagulant Therapy in Older Patients
PI: Rebecca J. Beyth, MD, MS
COE: Houston
Awardee: None
3. Beyth RJ. Commentary on 'The recurrence rate of venous thromboembolism after a first or second deep venous thrombosis episode was high'. *ACP J Club* 2000; 133: 117.
Project Number: AG00712-02
Project Title: Improving the Use of Anticoagulant Therapy in Older Patients
PI: Rebecca J. Beyth, MD, MS
COE: Houston
Awardee: None
4. Beyth RJ. Commentary on 'Pneumatic compression and LMWH are more effective for preventing DVT after total knee arthroplasty than is aspirin or warfarin'. *ACP J Club* 2001; 134: 54.
Project Number: AG00712-02
Project Title: Improving the Use of Anticoagulant Therapy in Older Patients
PI: Rebecca J. Beyth, MD, MS
COE: Houston
Awardee: None
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Project Number: AG00712-02
Project Title: Improving the Use of Anticoagulant Therapy in Older Patients
PI: Rebecca J. Beyth, MD, MS
COE: Houston
Awardee: None

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Project Number: AG00712-02
Project Title: Improving the Use of Anticoagulant Therapy in Older Patients
PI: Rebecca J. Beyth, MD, MS
COE: Houston
Awardee: None
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Project Number: HFP 90-020
Project Title: Economics
PI: Margaret M. Byrne, PhD
COE: Houston
Awardee: None
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Project Number: SDR 93-007
Project Title: Patient Preferences in End-Stage Prostate Cancer
PI: Nelda P. Wray, MD, MPH
COE: Houston
Awardee: None
9. Deswal A, Misra A, Bozkurt B. The role of anti-cytokine therapy in the failing heart. *Heart Fail Rev* 2001; 6: 143-151.
Project Number: CRCD 712B
Project Title: Understanding Racial Variations in Response to Drug Therapy for Heart Failure
PI: Anita Deswal, MD
COE: Houston
Awardee: CRCD 712B
10. Deswal A, Petersen NJ, Feldman AM, White BG, Mann DL. Effects of vesnarinone on peripheral circulating levels of cytokines and cytokine receptors in patients with heart failure: a report from the Vesnarinone Trial. *Chest* 2001; 120: 453-459.
Project Number: CRCD 712B
Project Title: Understanding Racial Variations in Response to Drug Therapy for Heart Failure
PI: Anita Deswal, MD
COE: Houston
Awardee: CRCD 712B

11. Deswal A, Petersen NJ, Feldman AM, Young JB, White BG, Mann DL. Cytokines and Cytokine Receptors in Advanced Heart Failure : An Analysis of the Cytokine Database from the Vesnarinone Trial (VEST). Circulation 2001; 103: 2055-2059.
Project Number: CRCD 712B
Project Title: Understanding Racial Variations in Response to Drug Therapy for Heart Failure
PI: Anita Deswal, MD
COE: Houston
Awardee: CRCD 712B

12. Durall A, El-Serag R, El Serag H. Epidemiology and screening for hepatocellular carcinoma. Pract Gastroenterol 2001; 10: 51-58.
Project Number: XNV 33-021
Project Title: Epidemiology of Hepatitis C Virus Infection Among U.S. Veterans: Clinical and Economic Impact

PI: A. Durall
COE: Houston
Awardee: RCD 00-013-2

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Project Number: HFP 90-020
Project Title: Geropsychiatry
PI: R. C. Edgell
COE: Houston
Awardee: RCD 98-351

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Project Number: XNV 33-017
Project Title: Treatment of Gastroesophageal Reflux Disease in Patients with Idiopathic Laryngitis

PI: Hashem B. El-Serag, MD, MPH
COE: Houston
Awardee: None

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Project Number: XNV 33-021
Project Title: Epidemiology of Hepatitis C Virus Infection Among U.S. Veterans: Clinical and Economic Impact

PI: Hashem B. El-Serag, MD, MPH
COE: Houston
Awardee: RCD 00-013-2

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Project Number: HFP 90-020
Project Title: Gastroenterology
PI: Hashem B. El-Serag, MD, MPH
COE: Houston
Awardee: None
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Project Number: RCD 00-013-2
Project Title: Clinical Outcomes and Resource Utilization in Gastrointestinal Disease
PI: Hashem B. El-Serag, MD, MPH
COE: Houston
Awardee: RCD 00-013-2
18. El Serag HB, Mason AC. Risk factors for the rising rates of primary liver cancer in the United States. *Arch Intern Med* 2000; 160: 3227-3230.
Project Number: HFP 90-020
Project Title: Gastroenterology
PI: Hashem B. El-Serag, MD, MPH
COE: Houston
Awardee: None
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Project Number: XNV 33-021
Project Title: Epidemiology of Hepatitis C Virus Infection Among U.S. Veterans: Clinical and Economic Impact
PI: Hashem B. El-Serag, MD, MPH
COE: Houston
Awardee: RCD 00-013-2
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Project Number: XNV 33-021
Project Title: Epidemiology of Hepatitis C Virus Infection Among U.S. Veterans: Clinical and Economic Impact
PI: Hashem B. El-Serag, MD, MPH
COE: Houston
Awardee: RCD 00-013-2
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Project Number: HFP 90-020
Project Title: Arthritis
PI: J. Esdaile
COE: Houston
Awardee: None

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Project Number: HFP 90-020
Project Title: Physical Activity
PI: G. Farris
COE: Houston
Awardee: None
23. Gabriel S, Drummond M, Suarez-Almazor ME, Ruff B, Guillemin F, Bombadier C, Boers M, Maetzel A, Ruof J, Cranney A, Marentette M, Tugwell P. OMERACT 5 Economics Working Group: summary, recommendations, and research agenda. *J Rheumatol* 2001; 28: 670-673.
Project Number: HFP 90-020
Project Title: Health Services and Systems
PI: S. Gabriel
COE: Houston
Awardee: None
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Project Number: HFP 90-020
Project Title: Gynecology
PI: Laura Goetzl, MD
COE: Houston
Awardee: None
25. Griffiths R, Rabeneck L, Guzman G, Cromwell D, Strauss M, Robinson J, Winston B, Li T, Graham D. Costs of managing H. pylori-infected ulcer patients after initial therapy. *Helicobacter* 2001; 6: 66-76.
Project Number: HFP 90-020
Project Title: Resource Use and Cost
PI: R. I. Griffiths
COE: Houston
Awardee: RCD 97-306
26. Grimes A, McCullough L, Kunik M, Molinari V, Workman R. Intentionality and Voluntariness Across Psychiatric Diagnoses As Revealed by Prefrontal Dysfunction: Implications for Informed Consent. *Psychiatr Serv* 2000; 51: 1561-1567.
Project Number: HFP 90-020
Project Title: Geropsychiatry
PI: A. Grimes
COE: Houston
Awardee: RCD 98-351
27. Haidet P. Journal Watch #3. *Medical Encounter* 2000; 15: 17-20.
Project Number: HFP 90-020
Project Title: Medical Education
PI: Paul Haidet, MD, MPH
COE: Houston
Awardee: None

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Project Number: HFP 90-020
Project Title: Medical Education
PI: Pual Haidet, MD, MPH
COE: Houston
Awardee: None
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Project Number: HFP 90-020
Project Title: Medical Education
PI: Paul Haidet, MD, MPH
COE: Houston
Awardee: None
30. Hample H, Bynum G, Zamora E, El Serag HB. Risk Factors for the Development of Renal Dysfunction in Hospitalized Patients with Cirrhosis. American Journal of Gastroenterology 2001; 96: 2206-2210.
Project Number: HFP 90-020
Project Title: Gastroenterology
PI: H. Hample
COE: Houston
Awardee: RCD 00-013-2
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Project Number: HFP 90-020
Project Title: Clinical Outcomes and Resource Utilization in Gastrointestinal Disease
PI: M. M. Hassan
COE: Houston
Awardee: RCD 00-013-2
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Project Number: HFP 90-020
Project Title: Arthritis
PI: J. E. Homik
COE: Houston
Awardee: None
33. Hughes R, Swedlund N, Petersen NJ, Nosek M. Depression in Women with Spinal Cord Injury. Topics in Spinal Cord Injury 2001; 7: 16-24.
Project Number: HFP 90-020
Project Title: Utilization and Cost of Health Care
PI: R. Hughes
COE: Houston
Awardee: None

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Project Number: HFP 90-020
Project Title: Arthritis
PI: C. A. Jones
COE: Houston
Awardee: None
35. Justice AC, Chang CH, Rabeneck L, Zackin R. Clinical importance of provider-reported HIV symptoms compared with patient-report. Med Care 2001; 39: 397-408.
Project Number: HFP 90-020
Project Title: Clinical Decision Making
PI: A. C. Justice
COE: Houston
Awardee: RCD 97-306
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Project Number: HFP 90-020
Project Title: Cardiology
PI: D. Kalra
COE: Houston
Awardee: CRCD 712B
37. Kelly KD, Voaklander D, Kramer G, Johnston DW, Redfern L, Suarez-Almazor ME. The impact of health status on waiting time for major joint arthroplasty. J Arthroplasty 2000; 15: 877-883.
Project Number: HFP 90-020
Project Title: Arthritis
PI: K. D. Kelly
COE: Houston
Awardee: None
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Project Number: HFP 90-020
Project Title: Arthritis
PI: K. D. Kelly
COE: Houston
Awardee: None

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Project Number: HFP 90-020
Project Title: Geropsychiatry
PI: M. Kenan
COE: Houston
Awardee: RCD 98-351
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Project Number: HFP 90-020
Project Title: Geropsychiatry
PI: H. F. Kim, MD
COE: Houston
Awardee: RCD 98-351
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Project Number: HFP 90-020
Project Title: Geropsychiatry
PI: H.F. Kim
COE: Houston
Awardee: RCD 98-351
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Project Number: ECV 97-022
Project Title: Racial Variations in Cardiac Procedures: Do Health Beliefs Matter?
PI: Laura A. Petersen, MD, MPH
COE: Houston
Awardee: RCD 95-306-1
43. Kunik ME, Braun U, Snow AL. Agitation in Long-Term Care Residents: The Need to Assess and Treat for Depression. *Issues in Depression* 2000; 2: 4-5.
Project Number: RCD 98-351
Project Title: Health Services Utilization in Patients with Dementia and Psychiatric Comorbidity
PI: Mark Kunik MD, MPH
COE: Houston
Awardee: RCD 98-351

44. Kunik ME, Braun U, Stanley MA, Wristers K, Molinari V, Stoebner D, Orengo CA. One session cognitive behavioral therapy for elderly patients with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease. Psychol Med 2001; 31: 717-723.
Project Number: RCD 98-351
Project Title: Health Services Utilization in Patients with Dementia and Psychiatric Comorbidity
PI: Mark E. Kunik, MD
COE: Houston
Awardee: RCD 98-351
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Project Number: RCD 98-351
Project Title: Health Services Utilization in Patients with Dementia and Psychiatric Comorbidity
PI: Mark E. Kunik, MD, MPH
COE: Houston
Awardee: RCD 98-351
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Project Number: RCD 98-351
Project Title: Health Services Utilization in Patients with Dementia and Psychiatric Comorbidity
PI: Mark E. Kunik, MD, MPH
COE: Houston
Awardee: RCD 98-351
47. Menke TJ, Rabeneck L, Hartigan PM, Simberkoff MS, Wray NP. Clinical and socioeconomic determinants of health care use among HIV- infected patients in the Department of Veterans Affairs. Inquiry 2000; 37: 61-74.
Project Number: HII 99-049
Project Title: HRS&D Career Scientist Award
PI: Terri J. Menke, PhD
COE: Houston
Awardee: RCS 00-002
48. Menke TJ, Wray NP. When does regionalization of expensive medical care save money?. Health Serv Manage Res 2001; 14: 116-124.
Project Number: RCS 00-002
Project Title: HSR&D Career Scientist Award
PI: Terri J. Menke, PhD
COE: Houston
Awardee: RCS 00-002

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Project Number: HFP 90-020
Project Title: Geropsychiatry
PI: Victor Molinari, PhD
COE: Houston
Awardee: RCD 98-351
50. Morris S, Helmer D, Pesce M, Giglio J. Clinical utility of CKMB isoform determinations in patients who present to the emergency department with continuous or resolved chest pain. *Journal of Emergency Medicine* 2000; 19: 21-26.
Project Number: HFP 90-020
Project Title: Health Policy and Management
PI: S. A. Morris
COE: Houston
Awardee: None
51. Petersen L, Normand S, Daley J, McNeil B. Outcomes of myocardial infarction in Veterans Health Administration patients as compared with Medicare patients. *N Engl J Med* 2000; .
Project Number: RCD 95-306-1
Project Title: Advanced Research Career Development Award
PI: Laura Petersen, MD, MPH
COE: Houston
Awardee: RCD 95-306-1
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Project Number: XNV 33-025
Project Title: Planning Studies for a Clinical Trial in Dyspepsia
PI: Linda Rabeneck, MD, MPH
COE: Houston
Awardee: None
53. Rabeneck L, El Serag HB, Sandler R. Incidence and Survival of Colorectal Cancer in the US: 1989-1997. *Gastroenterology* 2001; 120: A65.
Project Number: HFP 90-020
Project Title: Gastroenterology
PI: Linda Rabeneck, MD, MPH
COE: Houston
Awardee: None
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Project Number: XNV 33-025
Project Title: Planning Studies for a Clinical Trial in Dyspepsia
PI: Linda Rabeneck, MD, MPH
COE: Houston
Awardee: None

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Project Number: XNV 33-025
Project Title: Planning Studies for a Clinical Trial in Dyspepsia
PI: Linda Rabeneck, MD, MPH
COE: Houston
Awardee: None
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Project Number: XNV 33-025
Project Title: Planning Studies for a Clinical Trial in Dyspepsia
PI: Linda Rabeneck, MD, MPH
COE: Houston
Awardee: None
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Project Number: XNV 33-025
Project Title: Planning Studies for a Clinical Trial in Dyspepsia
PI: Linda Rabeneck, MD, MPH
COE: Houston
Awardee: None
58. Rabeneck L, Wristers K, Soucek J, Menke T, Wray NP, Huang I, Ambriz E. Managing Uninvestigated Dyspepsia: What is the Value of 'Negative' Endoscopy?. *Gastrointestinal Endoscopy* 2001; 53: AB69.
Project Number: XNV 33-025
Project Title: Planning Studies for a Clinical Trial in Dyspepsia
PI: Linda Rabeneck, MD, MPH
COE: Houston
Awardee: None
59. Smith DM, Giobbie-Hurder A, Weinberger M, Oddone EZ, Henderson WG, Asch DA, Ashton CM, Feussner JR, Ginier P, Huey JM, Hynes DM, Loo L, Mengel CE. Predicting non-elective hospital readmissions: a multi-site study. Department of Veterans Affairs Cooperative Study Group on Primary Care and Readmissions. *Journal Of Clinical Epidemiology* 2000; 53: 1113-1118.
Project Number: HFP 90-020
Project Title: Health Services and Systems
PI: D. M. Smith
COE: Houston
Awardee: None

60. Suarez-Almazor ME. Rheumatic Diseases and the Environment (Kaufman & Varga). N Engl J Med 2000; 342: 1144.
Project Number: HFP 90-020
Project Title: Arthritis
PI: Maria Suarez-Almazor, MD, PhD
COE: Houston
Awardee: None
61. Suarez-Almazor ME, Conner-Spady B. Rating of arthritis health states by patients, physicians, and the general public. Implications for cost-utility analyses. American College of Rheumatology 64th National Meeting. J Rheumatol 2000; 28: 648-656.
Project Number: HFP 90-020
Project Title: Arthritis
PI: Maria Suarez-Almazor, MD, PhD
COE: Houston
Awardee: None
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Project Number: HFP 90-020
Project Title: Arthritis
PI: Maria Suarez-Almazor, MD, PhD
COE: Houston
Awardee: None
63. Suarez-Almazor ME, deGueus C, Homik JE, Russell AS. Failure to assess or manage osteoporosis (OP) following a hip fracture (HF). American College of Rheumatology 64th National Meeting. Arthritis Rheumatology 2000; 43: S203.
Project Number: HFP 90-020
Project Title: Arthritis
PI: Maria Suarez-Almazor, MD, PhD
COE: Houston
Awardee: None
64. Suarez-Almazor ME, Kendall CJ, Dorgan M. Surfing the Net--information on the World Wide Web for persons with arthritis: patient empowerment or patient deceit. J Rheumatol 2001; 28: 185-191.
Project Number: HFP 90-020
Project Title: Arthritis
PI: Maria Suarez-Almazor, MD, PhD
COE: Houston
Awardee: None

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Project Number: HFP 90-020
Project Title: Arthritis
PI: Maria Suarez-Alamzor, MD, PhD
COE: Houston
Awardee: None
66. Van McCrary S, Anderson CB, Jakovljevic J, Khan T, McCullough LB, Wray NP, Brody BA. A national survey of policies on disclosure of conflicts of interest in biomedical research. *N Engl J Med* 2000; 343: 1621-1626.
Project Number: HFP 90-020
Project Title: Health Care Policy
PI: S. Van McCrary, PhD
COE: Houston
Awardee: None
67. Verma S, Orengo C, Rebecca M, Kunik ME, et al. Contribution of PTSD/POW history to behavioral disturbances in dementia.. *International Journal of Geriatric Psychiatry* 2001; 16: 356-360.
Project Number: HFP 90-020
Project Title: Geropsychiatry
PI: S. Verma
COE: Houston
Awardee: RCD 98-351
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Project Number: HFP 90-020
Project Title: Geropsychiatry
PI: S. Verma
COE: Houston
Awardee: RCD 98-351
69. Woodard L, Kressin N, Petersen LA. Characteristics of Patients with Ischemic Heart Disease Who Found Medication Use Difficult. *Journal of General Internal Medicine* 2001; 16(suppl1): 184.
Project Number: HFP 90-020
Project Title: Cardiology
PI: LeChauncy Woodard, MD
COE: Houston
Awardee: RCD 95-306-1

In Press

1. Bachino B, Snow L, Kunik ME, Cody M, Wristers K. Principles of Pain Assessment and Treatment in Non-Communicative Demented Patients. Clinical Gerontologist. 2001; In press.
Project Number: HFP 90-020
Project Title: Gerontology
PI: B. Bachino, PhD
COE: Houston
Awardee: AIA 00-001
2. Beyth RJ, Shorr R. Principles of Drug Therapy in Older Patients: Rational Drug Prescribing in Clinics of Geriatric Medicine. Clinics of Geriatric Medicine. 2001; In press.
Project Number: AG00712-02
Project Title: Improving the Use of Anticoagulant Therapy in Older Patients
PI: Rebecca J. Beyth, MD, MS
COE: Houston
Awardee: None
3. Branch W, Kern D, Haidet P, Weissman S, Gracey C, Mitchell G, Inui T, Novak T. Teaching the human dimensions of care at the patient's bedside: a perspective. J American Medical Association. 2000; In press.
Project Number: HFP 90-020
Project Title: Medical Education
PI: W. Branch
COE: Houston
Awardee: None
4. Braun UK, Kunik ME, Rabeneck L, Beyth RJ. Malnutrition in patients with severe dementia: is there a place for PEG tube feeding?. Annals of Long-Term Care: Clinical Care and Aging. 2001; In press.
Project Number: HFP 90-020
Project Title: Dementia
PI: Ursula Braun, MD
COE: Houston
Awardee: RCD 98-351
5. Byrne MM, Thompson P. Screening and Preventable Illness. Journal of Health Economics. 2001; In press.
Project Number: HFP 90-020
Project Title: Economics
PI: Margaret M. Byrne, PhD
COE: Houston
Awardee: None

6. Collins T, Gordon HS, Johnson M, Daley J, Henderson WG, Khuri S. Preoperative Risk Factors for Thirty-Day Mortality Following Elective Surgery for Vascular Disease: Is Race Important. *Journal of Vascular Surgery*. 2001; In press.
Project Number: XNV 33-024
Project Title: Racial Variation in the Epidemiology and Outcomes of Peripheral Arterial Disease
PI: Tracie C. Collins, MD, MPH
COE: Houston
Awardee: RCD 97-319
7. Collins T, Johnson M, Daley J, Henderson WG. Risk Factors for Lower Extremity Non-Traumatic Amputation in Peripheral Arterial Disease: Is Race/Ethnicity an Independent Factor. *Medical Care*. 2001; In press.
Project Number: XNV 33-024
Project Title: Racial Variation in the Epidemiology and Outcomes of Peripheral Arterial Disease
PI: Tracie C. Collins, MD, MPH
COE: Houston
Awardee: None
8. Collins TC, Clark J, Petersen LA, Kressin N. How Patients Perceive Physician Communication Regarding Cardiac Testing. *Medical Care*. 2001; In press.
Project Number: ECV 97-022
Project Title: Racial Variation in the Epidemiology and Outcomes of Peripheral Arterial Disease
PI: Laura A. Petersen, MD, MPH
COE: Houston
Awardee: RCD 95-306-1
9. Cook K, Ashton CM, Byrne MM, Brody B, Giesler RB, Hanita M, Soucek J, Wray NP. A Psychometric Analysis of the Measurement Level of the Rating Scale, Time Trade Off, and Standard Gamble Measures. *Social Science Medicine*. 2001; In press.
Project Number: SDR 93-007
Project Title: Patient Preferences in End-Stage Prostate Cancer
PI: Nelda P. Wray, MD, MPH
COE: Houston
Awardee: None
10. Cook KF, Gartsman G, Roddey TS, Olson S. An Empirical Investigation of the Measurement Level of the Trait-Level Reliability of Four Scales of Shoulder Functioning. *Arch Phys Med and Rehab*. 2001; In press.
Project Number: 98-007-1
Project Title: Development of a Flexible Scale of Shoulder Functioning
PI: Karon F. Cook, PhD
COE: Houston
Awardee: None

11. Deswal A, Petersen NJ, Ashton CM, Ku-Goto M, Wray NP. Racial Differences in Outcomes in Veterans with Congestive Heart Failure. *Circulation*. 2000; In press.
Project Number: CHF 98-001
Project Title: QUERI Chronic Heart Failure Coordinating Center
PI: Nelda Wray, MD, MPH
COE: Houston
Awardee: None
12. El Serag H, Gilger M, Kuebel M, Rabeneck L. Extra-Esophageal Associations of Gastroesophageal Reflux Disease in Children Without Neurological Defects: A Case-Control Study. *Gastroenterology*. 2001; In press.
Project Number: HFP 90-020
Project Title: Gastroenterology
PI: Linda Rabeneck, MD, MPH
COE: Houston
Awardee: None
13. El Serag HB, Graham D. Prevention of Gastric Cancer. *IARC*. 2001; In press.
Project Number: RCD 00-013-1
Project Title: Clinical Outcomes and Resource Utilization in Gastrointestinal Disease
PI: Hashem B. El-Serag, MD, MPH
COE: Houston
Awardee: RCD 00-013-1
14. El Serag HB, Mason AC, Petersen NJ, Key C. Epidemiological Differences Between Adenocarcinoma of the Esophagus and Adenocarcinoma of the Gastric Cardia In the United States. *Gut*. 2001; In press.
Project Number: XNV 33-021
Project Title: Epidemiology of Hepatitis C Virus Infection Among U.S. Veterans: Clinical and Economic Impact
PI: Hashem B. El-Serag, MD, MPH
COE: Houston
Awardee: RCD 00-013-1
15. Haidet P. Journal Watch #6. Medical Encounter. 2001; In press.
Project Number: RCD 00-030-2
Project Title: Understanding Ethic Variations in Physician-Patient Communications
PI: Paul Haidet, MD, MPH
COE: Houston
Awardee: RCD 00-030-2
16. Haidet P. Commentary on 'Review: Cognitive Care and Combined Cognitive and Emotional Care Interventions May Influence Patients' Health Outcomes'. *ACP J Club*. 2001; In press.
Project Number: RCD 00-030-2
Project Title: Understanding Ethic Variations in Physician-Patient Communications
PI: Paul Haidet, MD, MPH
COE: Houston
Awardee: RCD 00-030-2

17. Haidet P, Dains J, Paterniti D, Chang T, Tseng E, Rogers J. Medical students' attitudes toward patient-centered care and standardized patients' perceptions of humanism: a link between attitudes and outcomes. *Academic Medicine (RIME)*. 2001; In press.
Project Number: XNV 33-022
Project Title: Students' Perceptions of Medical School Support for Patient-Centered Care
PI: Paul Haidet, MD, MPH
COE: Houston
Awardee: RCD 00-030-2
18. Haidet P, Dains J, Paterniti D, Chang T, Tseng E, Rogers J. Medical student attitudes toward patient-centered care and patients' perceptions on humanism. *Journal of General Internal Medicine*. 2001; In press.
Project Number: XNV 33-022
Project Title: Students' Perceptions of Medical School Support for Patient-Centered Care
PI: Paul Haidet, MD, MPH
COE: Houston
Awardee: RCD 00-030-2
19. Haidet P, Greisinger A, Aniol J, Sharf B, Wristers K, Street R. Explanatory models of illness: the role of meta-narratives. *Journal of General Internal Medicine*. 2001; In press.
Project Number: P01 HS10876-01
Project Title: Racial and Ethnic Variation in Medical Interactions
PI: Carol M. Ashton, MD, MPH
COE: Houston
Awardee: RCD 00-030-2
20. Haidet P, Paterniti D, Dains J, Rogers J. Medical student reflections on exercises intended to foster personal awareness. *Journal of General Internal Medicine*. 2001; In press.
Project Number: XNV 33-022
Project Title: Students' Perceptions of Medical School Support for Patient-Centered Care
PI: Paul Haidet, MD, MPH
COE: Houston
Awardee: RCD 00-030-2
21. Haidet P, Richards B, Morgan R, Wristers K, Moran B. Effects of Incorporating Active Learning Strategies Into a Residents' Lecture: Results of a Controlled Trial. *Journal of General Internal Medicine*. 2001; In press.
Project Number: P116B00884
Project Title: Demonstration of Team Learning in Health Sciences Education
PI: Paul Haidet, MD, MPH
COE: Houston
Awardee: RCD 00-030-2
22. Haidet P, Stone D, Taylor W, Makadon H. When risk is low: primary care physicians counseling about HIV prevention. *Pat Edu Couns*. 2001; In press.
Project Number: RCD 00-030-2
Project Title: Understanding Ethic Variations in Physician-Patient Communications
PI: Paul Haidet, MD, MPH
COE: Houston
Awardee: RCD 00-030-2

23. Haidet P, Wristers K, Richards B. Is it a Lecture, or is it a Small Group? An Initial Experience with 'Team Learning' in Medical Education. *Academic Medicine*. 2001; In press.
Project Number: P116B00884
Project Title: Demonstration of Team Learning in Health Sciences Education
PI: Paul Haidet, MD, MPH
COE: Houston
Awardee: RCD 00-030-2

24. Hossain M, Wright S, Petersen LA. Comparing performance of multinomial logistic regression and discriminant analysis for prediction of arrival time at the hospital after onset of acute myocardial infarction symptoms. *Journal Of Clinical Epidemiology*. 2001; In press.
Project Number: HFP 90-020
Project Title: Racial Variation Research
PI: M. Hossain
COE: Houston
Awardee: RCD 95-036-1

25. Johnson ML, Gordon H, Petersen NJ, Wrap NP, Shroyer AL, Grover FL, Geraci JM. Effect of Definition of Mortality on Hospital Profiles. *Medical Care*. 2001; In press.
Project Number: IIR 95-005
Project Title: Utility of PTF Data in Monitoring Outcomes of Surgical Care
PI: Jane Geraci, MD, MPH
COE: Houston
Awardee: None

26. Kilbourne A, Justice A, Rabeneck L. Prevalence of general and psychiatric comorbidity among HIV + veterans. *Journal Of Clinical Epidemiology*. 2001; In press.
Project Number: HFP 90-020
Project Title: Outcome Assessment
PI: A. Kilbourne
COE: Houston
Awardee: None

27. Kilbourne A, Justice AC, Rollman B, Rabeneck L, Weissman S, Smola S, Haron N, Schulz R, Whittle J, Rodriguez-Barradas M. Clinical importance of HIV-related symptoms among depressed and non-depressed HIV + patients. *Journal Of Clinical Epidemiology*. 2001; In press.
Project Number: HFP 90-020
Project Title: Clinical Decision Making
PI: A. Kilbourne
COE: Houston
Awardee: None

28. Kressin N, Clark J, Whittle J, East M, Peterson E, Chang B, Rosen AK, Ren X, Alley L, Kroupa L, Petersen LA. Development of Scales to Measure Health-Related Beliefs, Attitudes and Experiences of VA Cardiac Patients: Are There Differences by Race. Medical Care. 2001; In press.
Project Number: HFP 90-020
Project Title: Racial Variation Research
PI: N. R. Kressin
COE: Houston
Awardee: RCD 95-036-1
29. Kressin NR, Clark JA, Whittle J, East M, Peterson E, Chang B, Rosen A, Ren X, Alley L, Kroupa L, Collins T, Petersen LA. Racial Differences in Health Beliefs Among VA Cardiac Patients. Medical Care. 2001; In press.
Project Number: ECV 97-022
Project Title: Racial Variations in Cardiac Procedures: Do Health Beliefs Matter?
PI: Laura A. Petersen, MD, MPH
COE: Houston
Awardee: RCD 95-036-1
30. Mann DL, Deswal A, Bozkurt B, Torre-Amione G. New therapeutics for Chronic Heart Failure. Annual Review of Medicine. 2001; In press.
Project Number: CHF 98-001
Project Title: VA Chronic Heart Failure Quality Enhancement Research Initiative
PI: Nelda P. Wray, MD, MPH
COE: Houston
Awardee: CRCD 712B
31. Molinari V, Kier F, Kunik ME. Obtaining age-related mental health competency: what is needed. Educational Gerontologist. 2000; In press.
Project Number: HFP 90-020
Project Title: Geropsychiatry
PI: Victor Molinari, PhD
COE: Houston
Awardee: RCD 98-351
32. Moye L, Deswal A. Confirmatory subgroup analyses in clinical trials. Controlled Clinical Trials. 2001; In press.
Project Number: HFP 90-020
Project Title: Cardiology
PI: L. Moye
COE: Houston
Awardee: CRCD 712B

33. Oddone EZ, Petersen LA, Freedman J, Weinberger M. Contribution of the Veterans Health Administration in understanding racial disparities in access and utilization of health care: a spirit of inquiry. Medical Care Supplement on Racial Variation Research. 2001; In press.
Project Number: HFP 90-020
Project Title: Racial Variation Research
PI: E. Z. Oddone
COE: Houston
Awardee: RCD 95-036-1
34. Orengo CA, Kunik ME, Molinari V, Wristers K, Yudofsky S. Do Testosterone Levels Relate to Aggression in Elderly Men with Dementia. The Journal of Neuropsychiatry and Clinical Neurosciences. 2001; In press.
Project Number: HFP 90-020
Project Title: Geropsychiatry
PI: Claudia Orengo
COE: Houston
Awardee: RCD 98-351
35. Orengo CA, Wei S, Molinari V, Hale DD, Kunik ME. Functioning in rheumatoid arthritis: the role of depression and self-efficacy. Clinical Gerontologist. 2000; In press.
Project Number: HFP 90-020
Project Title: Geropsychiatry
PI: Claudia Orengo
COE: Houston
Awardee: RCD 98-351
36. Petersen LA, Wright SM, Peterson E, Daley J. Impact of Race on Cardiac Care and Outcomes in Veterans with Acute Myocardial Infarction. Medical Care. 2001; In press.
Project Number: ECV 97-022
Project Title: Racial Variations in Cardiac Procedures: Do Health Beliefs Matter?
PI: Laura A. Petersen, MD, MPH
COE: Houston
Awardee: RCD 95-036-1
37. Pisecco S, Wristers K, Swank P, Silva P, Baker D. The Effect of Academic Self-Concept on the Development of ADHD and Antisocial Behaviors in Early Adolescence. Journal of Learning Disabilities. 2001; In press.
Project Number: HFP 90-020
Project Title: Health Science Research
PI: S. Pisecco
COE: Houston
Awardee: None
38. Pryor F, Gidal B, Ramsay E, DeToledo J, Morgan RO. Fosphenytoin: Pharmacokinetics and tolerance of intramuscular loading doses. Epilepsia. 2001; In press.
Project Number: HFP 90-020
Project Title: Health Services Research
PI: F. M. Pryor
COE: Houston
Awardee: None

39. Rabeneck L, Menke T, Simberkoff M, Hartigan P, Dickinson GM, Jensen D, George WL, Goetz M. Using the National Registry of HIV-Infected Veterans in Research: Lessons for the Development of Disease Registries. J Clin Epidemiol. 2001; In press.
- Project Number:** HFP 90-020
Project Title: Epidemiology
PI: Linda Rabeneck, MD, MPH
COE: Houston
Awardee: None
40. Wristers K, Francis D, Foorman B, Fletcher J, Swank P. Growth in Precursor Reading Skills: Do Low-Achieving and Discrepant Readers Develop Differently. Learning Disabilities Research Practice. 2001; In press.
- Project Number:** HFP 90-020
Project Title: Health Services Research
PI: Kimberly Wristers, PhD
COE: Houston
Awardee: None

Book Chapters

1. Ashton CM. Preoperative Assessment. In: Osterweil D, Brummel-Smith K, Beck J, editor. Comprehensive geriatric assessment. New York: McGraw-Hill, 2001.
Project Number: HPF 90-020
Project Title: Preoperative Assessment
PI: Carol M. Ashton, MD, MPH
COE: Houston
Awardee: None
2. Beyth RJ. Hemorrhagic Complications of Oral Anticoagulant Therapy in Clinics of Geriatric Medicine. Clinics of Geriatric Medicine, 17 ed., 2001.
Project Number: 0060054Y
Project Title: Perioperative Management of Anticoagulant Therapy in Patients with Chronic Atrial Fibrillation
PI: Rebecca J. Beyth, MD, MS
COE: Houston
Awardee: None
3. Beyth RJ. Warfarin-related Bleeding. In: Spandorfer J, Konkle B, Merli G, editor. Management and Prevention of Thrombosis in Primary Care Physician. New York, NY: Oxford University Press, 2001.
Project Number: AG00712-02
Project Title: Improving the Use of Anticoagulant Therapy in Older Patients
PI: Rebecca J. Beyth, MD, MS
COE: Houston
Awardee: None
4. Oddone E, Petersen LA, Weinberger M. Health care use in the Veterans Health Administration: Racial trends, spirit of inquiry. In: Smelser N, Wilson W, Mitchell F, editor. Racial Trends and Their Consequences. Washington, DC: National Academy Press, 2001.
Project Number: HFP 90-020
Project Title: Racial Variations Research
PI: E. Z. Oddone
COE: Houston
Awardee: RCD 95-306
5. Suarez-Almazor ME. A compendium of the best available evidence for effective health care (Issue 3). In: BMA House, editor. Clinical Evidence, Issue 3 ed. London, UK: BMJ Publishing Group, 2000.
Project Number: HFP 90-020
Project Title: Arthritis
PI: Maria Suarez-Almazor, MD, PhD
COE: Houston
Awardee: None

6. Suarez-Almazor ME, Foster W. A compendium of the best available evidence for effective health care (Issue 4). In: BMA House, editor. Clinical Evidence, Issue 4 ed. London, UK: BMJ Publishing Group, 2000.

Project Number: HFP 90-020
Project Title: Arthritis
PI: Maria Suarez-Almazor, MD, PhD
COE: Houston
Awardee: None

7. Suarez-Almazor ME, Foster W. A compendium of the best available evidence for effective health care (Issue 5). In: BMA House, editor. Clinical Evidence, Issue 4 ed. London, UK: BMJ Publishing Group, 2001.

Project Number: HFP 90-020
Project Title: Arthritis
PI: Maria Suarez-Almazor, MD, PhD
COE: Houston
Awardee: None

Conference Presentations / Abstracts

1. Anderson C. Athletic Identity Among 8th Grade Adolescents: Definitions, Ratings, and Physical Activity. Annual Meeting of the American College of Sports Medicine. Bethesda, MA 2001.
Project Number: HFP 90-020
Project Title: Children's Health
PI: Cheryl B. Anderson, PhD
COE: Houston
Awardee: None
2. Anderson C. TV Watching, Computer Use, and Physical Activity Among 8th Grade Adolescents. Annual Meeting of the American College of Sports Medicine. Bethesda, MA 2001.
Project Number: HFP 90-020
Project Title: Children's Health
PI: Cheryl B. Anderson, PhD
COE: Houston
Awardee: None
3. Anderson C. Normative beliefs and middle school students' lunch fruit and vegetable intake. Annual Meeting of the Society of Behavioral Medicine. Seattle, WA 2001.
Project Number: HFP 90-020
Project Title: Children's Health
PI: Cheryl B. Anderson, PhD
COE: Houston
Awardee: None
4. Aniol J. Assessing the effects of integrated Care on Medical Cost Savings in VA and Non-VA Mental Health Patients. 19th Annual VA HSR&D Meeting. Washinton, DC 2001.
Project Number: HFP 90-020
Project Title: Cost-effectiveness of Primary Care
PI: Julie Aniol, PhD
COE: Houston
Awardee: None
5. Ashton C. Problems in Doctor-Patient Communication: A Cause of Racial Disparities in Health Care. Baylor College of Medicine Grand Rounds. Houston, TX 2000.
Project Number: P01 HS10876-01
Project Title: Racial and Ethnic Variation in Medical Interactions
PI: Carol M. Ashton MD, MPH
COE: Houston
Awardee: None
6. Beyth RJ, Quinn LM, Landefeld CS. Multicomponent comprehensive care improved control and may have decreased major bleeding in older patients on warfarin [Abstract]. ACP J Club 2001; 135: 17.
Project Number: AG00712-02
Project Title: Improving the Use of Anticoagulant Therapy in Older Patients
PI: Rebecca J. Beyth, MD, MS
COE: Houston
Awardee: None

7. Byrne M, Thompson P. Are Screening and Prevention effort levels optimal?. AHSR Annual Meeting. Atlanta, GA 2001.
Project Number: SES 997360
Project Title: Service Line Analysis
PI: Martin P. Charns
COE: Houston
Awardee: None
8. Byrne MM. Organizational Strategies in VA Service Lines. AHSR Annual Meeting. Atlanta, GA 2001.
Project Number: HFP 90-020
Project Title: Economics
PI: Margaret M. Byrne, PhD
COE: Houston
Awardee: None
9. Collins T, Johnson M, Daley J, Henderson WG. Risk Factors for Lower Extremity Non-Traumatic Amputation in Peripheral Arterial Disease: Is Race/Ethnicity and Independent Factor. 19th Annual VA HSR&D Meeting 2001.
Project Number: XNV 33-024
Project Title: Racial Variation in the Epidemiology and Outcomes of Peripheral Arterial Disease
PI: Tracie C. Collins, MD, MPH
COE: Houston
Awardee: None
10. Cree M, Carriere K, Soskolne CL, Suarez-Almazor M. Function following hip fracture. American College of Rheumatology 64th National Meeting. Arthritis Rheum. Philadelphia, PA 2001; 43: S286.
Project Number: HFP 90-020
Project Title: Arthritis
PI: M. Cree
COE: Houston
Awardee: None
11. Dains J, Haidet P, Paterniti D, Chang T, Tseng E, Rogers J. Medical Students' Interview Style, Attitudes Toward Patient-Centered Care, and Standardized Patients Perceptions of Humanism. 2001.
Project Number: HFP 90-020
Project Title: Medical Education
PI: J. Dains
COE: Houston
Awardee: RCD 00-030-2

12. Deswal A. Readmissions for Heart Failure: Health Care Deficiency in Need of Change. Poster Presentation at Open House of the Houston Center for Quality of Care and Utilization Studies, VAMC 2001.
Project Number: CHF 98-001
Project Title: VA Chronic Heart Failure Quality Enhancement Research Initiative
PI: Nelda P. Wray, MD, MPH
COE: Houston
Awardee: None
13. Dunn NJ. Posttraumatic Stress Disorder. Lectures presented as part of the pilot Crisis Intervention Team training for Houston Police Department and Pasadena Texas Police Department. Houston, TX and Pasadena, TX 2000.
Project Number: IIR 95-074
Project Title: Treatment of Depression in Patients with PTSD
PI: Nancy Jo Dunn, PhD
COE: Houston
Awardee: None
14. Dunn NJ, Schillaci J, Wagner A, Rehm L, Soucek J, Menke T, Ashton C, Hamilton J. Development of a psychoeducational group therapy protocol. International Society for Traumatic Stress Studies Annual Meeting. San Antonio, TX 2000.
Project Number: IIR 95-074
Project Title: Treatment of Depression in Patients with PTSD
PI: Nancy Jo Dunn, PhD
COE: Houston
Awardee: None
15. Dunn NJ, Schillaci J, Wagner A, Rehm L, Soucek J, Menke T, Ashton C, Hamilton J. Development of a psychoeducational group therapy protocol. International Society for Traumatic Stress Studies. San Antonio, TX 2000.
Project Number: IIR 95-074
Project Title: Treatment of Depression in Patients with PTSD
PI: Nancy Jo Dunn, PhD
COE: Houston
Awardee: None
16. El Serag HB, Bailey N, Gilger M, Rabeneck L. Absence of Barrett's Esophagus in Neurologically Normal Children. American Gastroenterology Association Scientific Meeting. Atlanta, GA 2001.
Project Number: XNV 33-017
Project Title: Treatment of Gastroesophageal Reflux Disease in Patients with Idiopathic Laryngitis
PI: Hashem B. El-Serag
COE: Houston
Awardee: None

17. El Serag HB, Bailey N, Gilger M, Rabeneck L. Risk Factors for Hepatocellular Carcinoma: A Case-Control Study Among US Veterans. *Gastroenterology* 2001; 120: A227.
Project Number: XNV 33-021
Project Title: Clinical Outcomes and Resource Utilization in Gastrointestinal Disease. American Gastroenterology Scientific Meeting
PI: Hashem B. El-Serag, MD, MPH
COE: Houston
Awardee: RCD 00-013-2
18. El Serag HB, Bailey N, Gilger M, Rabeneck L. Absence of Barrett's Esophagus in Neurologically Normal Children. *Gastroenterology* 2001; 120: A412.
Project Number: RCD 00-013-2
Project Title: Clinical Outcomes and Resource Utilization in Gastrointestinal Disease
PI: Hashem B. El-Serag MD, MPH
COE: Houston
Awardee: RCD 00-013-2
19. El Serag HB, Everhart JE, Richardson PA. The role of diabetes in hepatocellular carcinoma among veterans: A case-control study. *American Journal of Gastroenterology* 2001; 96: 2462-2467.
Project Number: XNV 33-021
Project Title: Epidemiology of Hepatitis C Virus Infection Among U.S. Veterans: Clinical and Economic Impact
PI: Hashem B. El-Serag, MD, MPH
COE: Houston
Awardee: None
20. El Serag HB, Hepworth EJ, Lee P, Sonnenberg A. Gastroesophageal reflux disease is a risk factor for laryngeal and pharyngeal neoplasms. *American Journal of Gastroenterology* 2001; 96: 2013-2018.
Project Number: RCD 00-013-2
Project Title: Clinical Outcomes and Resource Utilization in Gastrointestinal Disease
PI: Hashem B. El-Serag, MD, MPH
COE: Houston
Awardee: RCD 00-013-2
21. El Serag HB, Kunik ME, Richardson P, Rabeneck L. Psychiatric and Drug Use Disorders Among Veterans Infected with Hepatitis C Virus. *American Gastroenterological Association Digestive Disease Week* 2001.
Project Number: XNV 33-021
Project Title: Epidemiology of Hepatitis C Virus Infection Among U.S. Veterans: Clinical and Economic Impact
PI: Hashem B. El-Serag, MD, MPH
COE: Houston
Awardee: None

22. El Serag HB, Kunik ME, Richardson P, Rabeneck L. Psychiatric and Drug Disorders Among Veterans Infected with Hepatitis C Virus. American Gastroenterology Association Scientific Meeting. Gastroenterology. Atlanta, GA 2001; 120: A409.
Project Number: XNV 33-021
Project Title: Epidemiology of Hepatitis C Virus Infection Among U.S. Veterans: Clinical and Economic Impact
PI: Hashem B. El-Serag
COE: Houston
Awardee: RCD 00-013-2
23. El Serag HB, Mason AC, Petersen NJ, Key C. Epidemiological Differences Between Adenocarcinoma of the Esophagus and Adenocarcinoma of the Gastric Cardia In the United States. American College of Gastroenterology Scientific Meeting. New York, NY 2000.
Project Number: XNV 33-021
Project Title: Epidemiology of Hepatitis C Virus Infection Among U.S. Veterans: Clinical and Economic Impact
PI: Hashem B. El-Serag, MD, MPH
COE: Houston
Awardee: None
24. Gilger M, Dietrich C, DeGarmo P, Gold B, Griffiths A, Heyman M, Klish W, Rabeneck L, Saripkin L, Shub M, Rudoph C. Why is endoscopy performed in children? Piloting the PEDS-CORI project. Gastrointest Endosc 2001; 53: AB65.
Project Number: HFP 90-020
Project Title: Gastroenterology
PI: M. A. Gilger
COE: Houston
Awardee: None
25. Gilger M, Dietrich C, DeGarmo P, Gold B, Griffiths A, Heyman M, Klish W, Rabeneck L, Saripkin L, Shub M, Rudoph C. The PEDSCORI project: A work in progress. Gastrointest Endosc 2001; 53: AB202.
Project Number: HFP 90-020
Project Title: Gastroenterology
PI: M. A. Gilger
COE: Houston
Awardee: None
26. Gordon HS. Understanding and eliminating racial/ethnic variations in care. 9th Annual VA Health Services Research and Development Service Career Development Awardee Meeting 2001.
Project Number: RCD 97-319
Project Title: Research Career Development Award
PI: Howard S. Gordon, MD
COE: Houston
Awardee: None

27. Haidet P, Dains J, Paterniti D, Chang T, Tseng E, Rogers J. Medical student attitudes toward patient-centered care and patients' perceptions on humanism. Poster Presentation at 24th Annual Meeting of the Society of General Internal Medicine. San Diego, CA 2001.
Project Number: XNV 33-022
Project Title: Students' Perceptions of Medical School Support for Patient-Centered Care
PI: Paul Haidet, MD, MPH
COE: Houston
Awardee: RCD 00-030-2
28. Haidet P, Dains J, Paterniti D, Chang T, Tseng E, Rogers J. Medical student attitudes toward patient-centered care and patients' perceptions of humanism. Poster Presentation at 1st Houston Area Health Services and Outcomes Research Conference 2000.
Project Number: XNV 33-022
Project Title: Students' Perceptions of Medical School Support for Patient-Centered Care
PI: Paul Haidet, MD, MPH
COE: Houston
Awardee: RCD 00-030-2
29. Haidet P, Greisinger A, Aniol J, Sharf B, Wristers K, Street R. Veterans' Explanatory Models of Illness: The Role of Meta Narratives. Poster Presentation at the 24th Annual Meeting of the Society of General Internal Medicine 2001.
Project Number: P01 HS10876-01
Project Title: Racial and Ethnic Variation in Medical Interactions
PI: Carol M. Ashton, MD, MPH
COE: Houston
Awardee: RCD 00-030-2
30. Haidet P, Paterniti D, Dains J, Rogers J. Medical student reflections on exercises intended to foster personal awareness. Poster Presentation at the 24th Annual Meeting of the Society of General Internal Medicine 2001.
Project Number: XNV 33-022
Project Title: Students' Perceptions of Medical School Support for Patient-Centered Care
PI: Paul Haidet, MD, MPH
COE: Houston
Awardee: RCD 00-030-2
31. Haidet P, Richards B, Morgan R, Wristers K, Moran B. Effects of Incorporating Active Learning Strategies Into a Residents' Lecture: Results of a Controlled Trial. Poster Presentation at the 24th Annual Meeting of the Society of General Internal Medicine 2001.
Project Number: P116B00884
Project Title: Demonstration of Team Learning in Health Sciences Education
PI: Paul Haidet, MD, MPH
COE: Houston
Awardee: RCD 00-030-2

32. Haidet P, Richards B, Morgan R, Wristers K, Moran B. Can Didactic Learning be Reduced Without Sacrificing Efficiency? Results of a Controlled Trial. Paper presented at the Research in Medical Education (RIME) Annual Meeting at the AAMC. San Diego, CA 2001.
Project Number: P116B00884
Project Title: Demonstration of Team Learning in Health Sciences Education
PI: Boyd Richards, MD
COE: Houston
Awardee: RCD 00-030-2
33. Haidet P, Wristers K, Richards B. Effects of team learning approach on learner engagements and attitudes toward subject matter. Poster Presentation at 111th Annual Meeting of the Association of American Medical Colleges 2000.
Project Number: P116B00884
Project Title: Demonstration of Team Learning in Health Sciences Education
PI: Paul Haidet, PhD
COE: Houston
Awardee: RCD 00-030-2
34. Hall J, Courville T, Graunke B, Kotria K, Simotas S, Bailey S, Hamilton J. Effect of a Structured Family Education Program on the Use and Cost of Mental Health Services by individuals with Severe Chronic Mental Illness. 2000.
Project Number: CPG-027
Project Title: A Multi-Site of Strategies for Implementing Schizophrenia Guidelines
PI: Joseph D. Hamilton, MD
COE: Houston
Awardee: None
35. Hassan MM, Zaghloul AS, El Serag HB, Soliman O, Patt YZ, Chappell CL, Beasley RP, HWANG LY. The role of Hepatitis C in Hepatocellular Carcinoma: A Case-Control Study Among Egyptian Patients. Journal of Clinical Geropsychology 2001; 33: 123-126.
Project Number: HFP 90-020
Project Title: Gastroenterology
PI: M. M. Hassan
COE: Houston
Awardee: None
36. Helmer D. A proposal to study primary care provider attitudes and knowledge of provider profiling in the VHA. NRSA Trainees' Research Conference 2001.
Project Number: HFP 90-020
Project Title: Health Policy and Management
PI: Drew Helmer, MD, MS
COE: Houston
Awardee: None

37. Helmer D, Nelson H, Ashton CM. Variations in healthcare use and cost in residents' continuity clinic panels. *Journal of General Internal Medicine* 2001; 16(Suppl. 1): 199.
Project Number: HFP 90-020
Project Title: Health Policy and Management
PI: Drew Helmer, MD, MS
COE: Houston
Awardee: None
38. Himali R, Gunasinghe H, Coker M, Thorp A, Lee-Jackson D, Bozkurt B, Deswal A, Mann DL. Increased Matrix Metalloproteinase Plasma Levels in Patients with Congestive Heart Failure: Relation to Cytokine Activation. *Circulation* 2000; 102: 44414.
Project Number: HFP 90-020
Project Title: Cardiology
PI: R. Himali
COE: Houston
Awardee: None
39. Johnson M, Beyth RJ. Lansoprazole Pharmacy Waste Project - VISN 16. Presented at the VISN 16 Pharmacy Benefits Management Annual Meeting 2000.
Project Number: XVA 33-016
Project Title: Drug Waste Project
PI: Michael L. Johnson, PhD
COE: Houston
Awardee: None
40. Kunik ME, Snow L, Molinari V, Menke T, Soucek J, Sullivan G, Ashton CM. Health care utilization in dementia patients with psychiatric comorbidity. Poster Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Veterans Affairs Health Services Research and Development Service 2001.
Project Number: RCD 98-351
Project Title: Geropsychiatry
PI: Mark E. Kunik, MD
COE: Houston
Awardee: RCD 98-351
41. Maksymowych W, Cooper B, Tao S, Suarez-Almazor ME, Russell AS. Interleukin 1-4, and TNF Alpha cytokine gene polymorphisms in palindromic rheumatism: No association with susceptibility or progression to rheumatoid arthritis. *American College of Rheumatology 64th National Meeting. Arthritis Rheumatology* 2000; 43: S327.
Project Number: HFP 90-020
Project Title: Arthritis
PI: W. P. Maksymowych
COE: Houston
Awardee: None

42. Maksymowych W, Cooper BL, Tao S, Suarez-Almazor M, Russell A. Interleukin 1-4, and TNF Alpha cytokine gene polymorphisms in palindromic rheumatism: No association with susceptibility or progression to rheumatoid arthritis. American College of Rheumatology 64th National Meeting. Philadelphia, PA 2001.
- Project Number:** HFP 90-020
Project Title: Arthritis
PI: W. P. Maksymowych
COE: Houston
Awardee: None
43. Mason AC, El Serag HB, Petersen NJ, Key C. Epidemiological Differences between Gastric Cardia Adenocarcinoma and Esophageal Adenocarcinoma. American College of Gastroenterology Scientific Meeting. New York, NY 2000.
- Project Number:** HFP 90-020
Project Title: Gastroenterology
PI: A. C. Mason
COE: Houston
Awardee: None
44. Mason AC, Eloubeidi MA, El Serag HB. Temporal Trends in Survival of Patients with Esophageal Adenocarcinoma. American Gastroenterology Association Scientific Meeting. Atlanta, GA 2001.
- Project Number:** HFP 90-020
Project Title: Gastroenterology
PI: A. C. Mason
COE: Houston
Awardee: None
45. Morgan R, DeVito C. Regional Variability in Medicare HMO Enrollment by Elderly Minorities: How Useful are National Statistics. American Public Health Association Annual Meeting. Boston, MA 2000.
- Project Number:** HFP 90-020
Project Title: Health Services Research
PI: Robert O. Morgan, PhD
COE: Houston
Awardee: None
46. Morgan R, Virnig BA, Huang I. Opening the VA to Medicare Eligible Veterans? Impact on Veterans' Anticipated Use of the VA. Department of Veteran Affairs Annual Health Services Research and Development Service Meeting. Washington, DC 2001.
- Project Number:** HFP 90-020
Project Title: Health Services Research
PI: Robert O. Morgan PhD
COE: Houston
Awardee: None

47. Morgan R, Virnig BA, Huang I, DeVito C. The Impact of Income, Age, Health Status and Distance to VA Facilities on Medicare HMO Enrollment by Elderly VA Using and Non-using Veterans. Department of Veteran Affairs Annual Health Services Research and Development Service Meeting. Washington, DC 2001.
Project Number: HFP 90-020
Project Title: Health Services Research
PI: Robert O. Morgan, PhD
COE: Houston
Awardee: None
48. Paterniti D, Price MD, Haidet P. Aging Health and Self-Reported Assessments of Quality of Life. Seminar given at Department of Internal Medicine/Center for Health Services Research Seminar Series, University of California, Davis 2000.
Project Number: HFP 90-020
Project Title: Medical Education
PI: Deborah Paterniti, PhD
COE: Houston
Awardee: None
49. Paterniti D, Price MD, Haidet P. Aging, Health, and Self-Reported Assessments of Quality of Life. Oral Presentation at the American Occupational Therapy Foundation Meetings on Habit. Pacific Grove, CA 2001.
Project Number: HFP 90-020
Project Title: Geropsychiatry
PI: Deborah Paterniti, PhD
COE: Houston
Awardee: None
50. Petersen LA. Using Health-Based Risk Adjusters for Budget Allocations. Under Secretary briefing. VAHQ, Washington, DC 2001.
Project Number: RCD 95-306-1
Project Title: Advanced Research Career Development Award
PI: Laura A. Petersen, MD, MPH
COE: Houston
Awardee: RCD 95-306-1
51. Petersen LA. One-on-One Mentoring. The Society of General Internal Medicine National Meeting 2001.
Project Number: RCD 95-306-1
Project Title: Advanced Research Career Development Award
PI: Laura A. Petersen, MD, MPH
COE: Houston
Awardee: RCD 95-306-1

52. Petersen LA, Collins TC, Kressin N. Trust of physicians and satisfaction among minority patients with ischemic heart disease. J Gen Intern Med 2001; 16 (Suppl.): 164.
Project Number: RCD 95-306-1
Project Title: Advanced Research Career Development Award
PI: Laura A. Petersen, MD, MPH
COE: Houston
Awardee: RCD 95-306-1
53. Petersen LA, Normand SL, Leape LL, Volya M, McNeil BJ. Access to clinically necessary angiography in VA compared with Medicare: a national comparison of process and 3-year survival. J Gen Intern Med 2001; 16 (Suppl.): 212.
Project Number: RCD 95-306-1
Project Title: Advanced Research Career Development Award
PI: Laura A. Petersen, MD, MPH
COE: Houston
Awardee: RCD 95-306-1
54. Petersen LA, Normand SL, Leape LL, Volya M, McNeil BJ. Access to clinically necessary angiography in VA compared with Medicare: a national comparison of process and 3-year survival. Presented at HSR&D Annual Meeting 2001.
Project Number: HFP 90-020
Project Title: Advanced Research Career Development Award
PI: Laura A. Petersen, MD, MPH
COE: Houston
Awardee: RCD 95-306
55. Provenzale D, Gralnek I, Ofman J, Rabeneck L, Koff R, McCrory D. Gastroenterologist specialist care is effective and cost-effective compared to care provided by generalists. Am J Gastroenterol 2001; 95: A780.
Project Number: HFP 90-020
Project Title: Gastroenterology
PI: D. Provenzale
COE: Houston
Awardee: None
56. Rabeneck L. Manuscript Preparation and Writing Submission. panelist at the Academic Skills Workshop: Training and Academic Opportunities for Junior Faculty in Gastroenterology, sponsored by the American Gastroenterological Association and the Gastroenterology Research Group. Singer Island, FL 2001.
Project Number: HFP 90-020
Project Title: Gastroenterology
PI: Linda Rabeneck, MD, MPH
COE: Houston
Awardee: None

57. Rabeneck L. Uninvestigated Dyspepsia: A Model for Outcomes Research. Presented at Gastroenterology Grand Rounds. University of California, Los Angeles, CA 2000.
Project Number: XNV 33-025
Project Title: Planning Studies for a Clinical Trial in Dyspepsia
PI: Linda Rabeneck, MD, MPH
COE: Houston
Awardee: None
58. Rabeneck L. Managing Dyspepsia in Primary Care: What Are We Doing. Presented at Gastroenterology Clinical Conference, University of Michigan. Ann Arbor, MI 2001.
Project Number: XNV 33-025
Project Title: Planning Studies for a Clinical Trial in Dyspepsia
PI: Linda Rabeneck, MD, MPH
COE: Houston
Awardee: None
59. Rabeneck L. Measuring Patient Centered Outcomes. Gastroenterology Fellows Conference, University of California. Los Angeles, CA 2000.
Project Number: HFP 90-020
Project Title: Gastroenterology
PI: Linda Rabeneck, MD, MPH
COE: Houston
Awardee: None
60. Rabeneck L. Dyspepsia and H. Pylori Infection: Is Anything Clear. University of Toronto. Toronto, Canada 2000.
Project Number: XNV 33-025
Project Title: Planning Studies for a Clinical Trial in Dyspepsia
PI: Linda Rabeneck, MD, MPH
COE: Houston
Awardee: None
61. Rabeneck L. Dyspepsia: A Model for Outcomes Research. Presented at Gastroenterology Grand Rounds. Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, OH 2000.
Project Number: XNV 33-025
Project Title: Planning Studies for a Clinical Trial in Dyspepsia
PI: Linda Rabeneck, MD, MPH
COE: Houston
Awardee: None
62. Rabeneck L. Evaluating Dyspepsia-Related Health Measures: How Does SODA (Severity of Dyspepsia Assessment) Stack Up. Gut 2000; 47: A109.
Project Number: XNV 33-025
Project Title: Planning Studies for a Clinical Trial in Dyspepsia
PI: Linda Rabeneck, MD, MPH
COE: Houston
Awardee: None

63. Rabeneck L. Funding Opportunities for Outcomes Research. The 6th Annual Methodologies in Healthcare Outcomes in Gastroenterology Workshop Symposium, sponsored by the American Gastroenterological Association and the Gastroenterology Research Group. Dallas, TX 2000.
Project Number: HFP 90-020
Project Title: Gastroenterology
PI: Linda Rabeneck, MD, MPH
COE: Houston
Awardee: None
64. Rabeneck L. Use of Quality of Life Instruments and Outcome Measures. The Academic Skills Workshop: Training and Academic Opportunities for Junior Faculty in Gastroenterology, sponsored by the American Gastroenterological Association and the Gastroenterology Research Group. Singer Island, FL 2001.
Project Number: HFP 90-020
Project Title: Gastroenterology
PI: Linda Rabeneck, MD, MPH
COE: Houston
Awardee: None
65. Rabeneck L, El Serag HB, Sandler R. Incidence and Survival of Colorectal Cancer in The US: 1989-1997. American Gastroenterology Association Scientific Meeting. Atlanta, GA 2001.
Project Number: HFP 90-020
Project Title: Gastroenterology
PI: Linda Rabeneck, MD, MPH
COE: **Houston**
Awardee: RCD 00-013-2
66. Schillaci J, Dunn NJ, Rehm L, Yanasak E, Adams J, Simotas S, Llewellyn A, Dodrill C, Hamilton J, Wagner A. Guidelines for Axis I and II Diagnoses in a PTSD Population. International Society for Traumatic Stress Studies. San Antonio, TX 2000.
Project Number: HFP 90-020
Project Title: Psychology
PI: J. Schillaci
COE: Houston
Awardee: None
67. Schillaci J, Yanasak E, Dodrill C, Simotas S, Wagner A, Adams J, Rehm L, Hamilton J. Successful recruitment and retention strategies for study participants. International Society for Traumatic Stress Studies Annual Meeting. San Antonio, TX 2000.
Project Number: HFP 90-020
Project Title: Psychology
PI: J. Schillaci
COE: Houston
Awardee: None

68. Shah A, Snow L, Kunik ME. Spiritual and Religious Coping Amongst Caregivers of Patients with Alzheimer's Disease. Presented at American Geriatrics Society Annual Scientific Meeting. Chicago, IL 2001.
- Project Number:** AIA 00-001
Project Title: Alzheimer's Disease
PI: A. Shaw
COE: Houston
Awardee: RCD 98-351
69. Snow AL, Carpenter B, Meekes S, Depp CA, Slone D, Ruckdeschel H, Van Haitsma K, Tobin S. Innovative Psychotherapeutic Treatment Models for Older Adults with Dementia. Annual Meeting of the Gerontological Society of America. Washington, DC 2000.
- Project Number:** AIA 00-001
Project Title: Associate Investigator Program Award
PI: Andrea L. Snow, PhD
COE: Houston
Awardee: AIA 00-001
70. Snow AL, Norris M, Molinari V, Orengo CA, Doody R, Kunik ME. The Validity of Self-Reported Depression in Demented Elderly. Paper Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Gerontological Society of America. Washington, DC 2000.
- Project Number:** AIA 00-001
Project Title: Associate Investigator Program Award
PI: Andrea L. Snow, PhD
COE: Houston
Awardee: AIA 00-001
71. Snow AL, Powers D. Adapting Psychotherapy for Use with Cognitively Impaired Individuals. A Workshop at the Third Annual Conference of the Florida Coalition for Optimal Mental Health and Aging. Florida 2000.
- Project Number:** AIA 00-001
Project Title: Associate Investigator Program Award
PI: Andrea L. Snow, PhD
COE: Houston
Awardee: AIA 00-001
72. Snow AL, Wristers K, Kunik ME, Cody M, Beck C, Ashton CM. Assessing Pain in Severely Demented Individuals: Development of a Nursing-Assistant Administered Instrument. Poster Presentation at the Nineteenth Annual Meeting of the VA Health Services Research and Development. Washington, DC 2001.
- Project Number:** AIA 00-001
Project Title: Health Services Utilization in Dementia Patients with Psychiatric Comorbidity
PI: Andrea L. Snow, PhD
COE: Houston
Awardee: AIA 00-001

73. Suarez-Almazor M, Ahn C, Friedman A, Fischbach M, McNearney T, Lisse J, Reveille J. Performance of outcome measures in systemic sclerosis (Ssc). American College of Rheumatology 64th National Meeting. Philadelphia, PA 2001.
- Project Number:** HFP 90-020
Project Title: Arthritis
PI: Maria Suarez-Almazor, MD, PhD
COE: Houston
Awardee: None
74. Suarez-Almazor M, Conner-Spady B. Preference-Based Classification Systems for the assessment of health-related quality of life (HRLQ) in patients with musculoskeletal disease. American College of Rheumatology 64th National Meeting. Philadelphia, PA 2001.
- Project Number:** HFP 90-020
Project Title: Arthritis
PI: Maria Suarez-Almazor, MD, PhD
COE: Houston
Awardee: None
75. Suarez-Almazor M, DeGeus C, Homik J, Russell A. Failure to assess or manage osteoporosis (OP) following a hip fracture (HF). American College of Rheumatology 64th National Meeting. Philadelphia, PA 2001.
- Project Number:** HFP 90-020
Project Title: Arthritis
PI: Maria Suarez-Almazor, MD, PhD
COE: Houston
Awardee: None
76. Suarez-Almazor ME. Prognosis in Rheumatoid Arthritis: Biomedical or Psychosocial. Colombian Congress of Rheumatology. Cartagena, Colombia 2001.
- Project Number:** HFP 90-020
Project Title: Arthritis
PI: Maria Suarez-Almazor, MD, PhD
COE: Houston
Awardee: None
77. Suarez-Almazor ME. Rating of arthritis health states by patients, physicians and the general public. Implications for cost-utility analyses - Outcome Measures in Rheumatology. OMERACT V. Toulouse, France 2000.
- Project Number:** HFP 90-020
Project Title: Arthritis
PI: Maria Suarez-Almazor, MD, PhD
COE: Houston
Awardee: None

78. Suarez-Almazor ME. Cost-effectiveness in Rheumatoid Arthritis. Colombian Congress of Rheumatology. Cartagena, Colombia 2001.
Project Number: HFP 90-020
Project Title: Arthritis
PI: Maria Suarez-Almazor, MD, PhD
COE: Houston
Awardee: None
79. Suarez-Almazor ME. Prognosis in Rheumatic Diseases. Mexican Congress of Rheumatology. Mazatlan, Mexico 2000.
Project Number: HFP 90-020
Project Title: Arthritis
PI: Maria Suarez-Almazor, MD, PhD
COE: Houston
Awardee: None
80. Suarez-Almazor ME. Rating of arthritis health states by patients, physicians and the public. Implications for cost-utility analyses. American College of Rheumatology 64th National Meeting. Arthritis Rheum. Philadelphia, PA 2000; 43: S110.
Project Number: HFP 90-020
Project Title: Arthritis
PI: Maria Suarez-Almazor, MD, PhD
COE: Houston
Awardee: None
81. Suarez-Almazor ME, Ahn C, Friedman A, Fischbach M, McNearney T, Lisse J, Reveille J. Performance of outcome measures in systemic sclerosis (Ssc). American College of Rheumatology 64th National Meeting. Arthritis Rheumatology 2000; 43: S319.
Project Number: HFP 90-020
Project Title: Arthritis
PI: Maria Suarez-Almazor, MD, PhD
COE: Houston
Awardee: None
82. Suarez-Almazor ME, Conner-Spady B. Preference-based classification systems for the assessment of health-related quality of life (HRQL) in patients with musculoskeletal disease. American College of Rheumatology 64th National Meeting. Arthritis Rheumatology 2000; 43: S135.
Project Number: HFP 90-020
Project Title: Arthritis
PI: Maria Suarez-Almazor, MD, PhD
COE: Houston
Awardee: None

83. Suarez-Almazor ME, Conner-Spady B, Wristers K, Byrne M. Test-retest reliability of selected utility measures in the rating of arthritis health states. American College of Rheumatology 64th National Meeting. Arthritis Rheum. Philadelphia, PA 2000; 43: S110.
- Project Number:** HFP 90-020
Project Title: Health Care Evaluation Mechanisms
PI: Maria Suarez-Almazor, MD, PhD
COE: Houston
Awardee: None
84. Wayne D, Greenberg S, Helmer D, Hyman D. The Use of an Urgent Care Center for Ambulatory Education and Curriculum Design. Journal of General Internal Medicine 2001; 16 (Suppl 1): 87.
- Project Number:** HFP 90-020
Project Title: Medical Education
PI: Drew Helmer, MD
COE: Houston
Awardee: None
85. Wayne D, Helmer D, Greenberg S, Hyman D. An Urgent Care Center Presents New Opportunities for Medical Education. 2001 Regional Meeting, Southern Society of General Internal Medicine 2001.
- Project Number:** HFP 90-020
Project Title: Medical Education
PI: Drew Helmer, MD
COE: Houston
Awardee: None
86. Woodard L. Characteristics of Patients with Ischemic Heart Disease Who Found Medication Use Difficult. Poster Presented at Society of General Internal Medicine, 24th Annual Meeting. San Diego, CA 2001.
- Project Number:** HFP 90-020
Project Title: Cardiology
PI: LeChauncy Woodard, MD
COE: Houston
Awardee: RCD 95-306-1
87. Woodard L, Kressin N, Petersen L. Characteristics of patients who found medication use difficult. J Gen Intern Med 2001; 16 (Suppl.): 184.
- Project Number:** HFP 90-020
Project Title: Cardiology
PI: LeChauncey Woodard, MD
COE: Houston
Awardee: RCD 95-306-1
88. Wristers K, Rabeneck L. The Unreliability of Single-Item Scales. Poster Presented at the 109th Annual Conference of the American Psychological Association. San Francisco, CA 2001.
- Project Number:** HFP 90-020
Project Title: Databases
PI: Kimberly Wristers, PhD
COE: Houston
Awardee: RCD 97-306

89. Wristers K, Wray NP. Psychological Impact on Outcomes for Patients with Knee Osteoarthritis. Poster Presented at the 109th Annual Conference of the American Psychological Association. San Francisco, CA 2001.
- Project Number:** 0001
Project Title: Arthroscopic Treatment of Osteoarthritis of the Knee
PI: Nelda P. Wray, MD, MPH
COE: Houston
Awardee: None
90. Wristers K, Wray NP, Moseley B. Impact of Psychological Factors on Outcomes: Patients Treated for Osteoarthritis of the Knee. Oral Presentation at the Nineteenth Annual Meeting of the VA Health Services Research and Development. Washington, DC 2001.
- Project Number:** 0001
Project Title: Arthroscopic Treatment of Osteoarthritis of the Knee
PI: Nelda P. Wray, MD, MPH
COE: Houston
Awardee: None
91. Yanasak E, Adams J, Dodrill C, Simotas S, Wagner A, Schillaci J, Rehm L, Hamilton J, Dunn N. Successful Recruitment and Retention Strategies for Study Participants. Poster Presentation at International Society for Traumatic Stress Studies Annual Meeting. San Antonio, TX 2000.
- Project Number:** IIR 95-074
Project Title: Treatment of Depression in Patients with PTSD
PI: Nancy Jo Dunn, PhD
COE: Houston
Awardee: None

Reports

1. Ashton CM. Quality of Care and Outcomes Research in CVD and Stroke Working Group. 2000 Nov. Report Number: Circulation 2000.
Project Number: CHF 98-001
Project Title: Quality Enhancement Research Initiative (QUERI) Chronic Heart Failure Coordinating Center
PI: Nelda P. Wray, MD, MPH
COE: Houston
Awardee: None
2. Petersen LA. Final report: Risk Adjusting Budget Allocations. VERA Patient Classification Work Group, Denver VAMC, Denver, CO. 2000 Oct.
Project Number: RCD 95-306-1
Project Title: Advanced Research Career Development Award
PI: Laura A. Petersen, MD, MPH
COE: Houston
Awardee: RCD 95-306-1
3. Petersen LA. Final report: Risk Adjusting Budget Allocations in VA. VERA Subgroup on the Prolonged Functionally Disabled, Portland VAMC, Portland, OR. 2000 Oct.
Project Number: RCD 95-306-1
Project Title: Advanced Research Career Development Award
PI: Laura A. Petersen, MD, MPH
COE: Houston
Awardee: RCD 95-306-1
4. Petersen LA. Health-Based Risk Adjustment for Budget Allocations in VA. VERA Patient Classification Workgroup, Denver, CO. 2001 Jul.
Project Number: RCD 95-306-1
Project Title: Advanced Research Career Development Award
PI: Laura A. Petersen, MD, MPH
COE: Houston
Awardee: RCD 95-306-1
5. Petersen LA. Mortality After Myocardial Infarction: A National Comparison of VA and Non-VA Hospitals. National VA Leadership Board. 2001 Jul. Washington, DC.
Project Number: RCD 95-306-1
Project Title: Advanced Research Career Development Award
PI: Laura A. Petersen, MD, MPH
COE: Houston
Awardee: RCD 95-306-1
6. Petersen LA. Mortality After Myocardial Infarction: A National Comparison of VA and Non-VA Hospitals. VA Quality Management Integration Council, National Presentation. 2001 Apr.
Project Number: RCD 95-306-1
Project Title: Advanced Research Career Development Award
PI: Laura A. Petersen, MD, MPH
COE: Houston
Awardee: RCD 95-306-1

7. Petersen LA. Mortality After Myocardial Infarction: A National Comparison of VA and Non-VA Hospitals. Network/Health Services Research Liaison Committee invited presentation. 2001 Apr.
- Project Number:** RCD 95-306-1
Project Title: Advanced Research Career Development Award
PI: Laura A. Petersen, MD, MPH
COE: Houston
Awardee: RCD 95-306-1
8. Wray NP, Brody B, Ashton CM, Byrne MM, Clark JA, Cook K, Geraci JM, Giesler RB, Hanita M, Soucek J, Wristers K. Patient Preferences in Prostate Cancer. 2000 Dec. Report Number: HCQCUS 00-08.
- Project Number:** SDR 93-007
Project Title: Patient Preferences in End-Stage Prostate Cancer
PI: Nelda P. Wray, MD, MPH
COE: Houston
Awardee: None

6 National and Regional Leadership Roles

The investigators at the Houston Center of Excellence are prominent leaders on national research committees, editorial review boards, in academic associations & institutions. Our investigators make a substantive contribution to advance science and promote VA HSR&D. The matrix below provides greater detail on the organizations and institutions that enjoy the expertise and leadership of our Center's investigators.

Scientist	Key Leadership Activities
Carol Ashton, MD, MPH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Senior Mentor, HCQCUS: The Houston Center of Excellence. • Co-Editor-in-Chief, <i>Medical Care</i>, the official journal of the Medical care section of the American Public Health Association. • Editorial Board, Journal of General Internal Medicine (JGIM)
Nelda Wray, MD, MPH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Senior Mentor, HCQCUS: The Houston Center of Excellence. • Member of the Texas Board on Aging • National Advisory Committee, VA HSR&D Service. • National Advisory Committee, US Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality. • National Advisory Committee, Robert Wood Johnson Clinical Scholars program.
Rebecca Beyth, MD, MS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chief Operations Officer, Steering Committee, Anticoagulation-Thromboembolism Research Consortium, Society of General Internal Medicine (SGIM)
Nancy Jo Dunn, PhD.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Co-Director of Training, VA Fellowship Program in Advanced Psychiatry and Psychology, VA South Central Mental Illness Research, Education, and clinical Center (MIRECC)
Laura Petersen, MD, MPH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chair, Scientific Abstract Subcommittee, 2001 Annual Meeting.
Linda Rabeneck, MD, MPH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Director, Clinical Core, Center for Gastrointestinal Development, Infection, and Injury, Baylor College of Medicine (BCM). • Associate Editor, Evidence-Based Gastroenterology.
Lynn Snow, PhD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elected Convener, Mental Health and Aging Interest group, Gerontological Society of America.
Maria Suarez-Almazor, MD, PhD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consultant, Epidemiology Section, National Academy of Medicine, Argentina. • Facilitator, Rheumatoid Arthritis Subgroup, Cochrane Collaboration.

This list represents only some of the major leadership efforts on the part of scientists in our organization. Membership on and participation in many other organizations is detailed in the provided table.

Leadership remains a core value in the Center. Our Investigators are committed to this value and actively seek opportunities for leadership in and outside the Center. Our objective for FY01 is to ensure each scientist and senior leader is a member of his or her respective discipline's Nationally recognized group, society, or organization. It is through thoughtful leadership in such organizations that we will impact our industry and expand the reputation of health services research as a necessary element for constructive change in healthcare policy and practice.

6.1 National and Regional Leadership Roles (Table 4)

Houston Center of Excellence National and Regional Leadership Roles, FY 2001

Name	Organization	Org Type*	Role	VA Sponsored	VA Contribution**
C. Anderson PhD	Society of Behavioral Medicine	AS	Member	No	5
	American Psychological Association including Division 8-Personality and Social Psychology, Division 38- Health	AS	Member	No	5
	American College of Sports	AS	Member	No	5
C. Ashton MD MPH	Society of General Internal	AS	Member	No	5
	Academy for Health Services Research and Health Policy	AS	Member	No	4,5
	American Public Health Association	AS	Member	No	5
	Health Policy Section for American Statistical Association	AS	Member, Planning Committee, International Health Policy Conference 2001	No	4,5
	Annals of Internal Medicine	EB	Reviewer	No	3
	Circulation	EB	Reviewer	No	3
	Health Services Research	EB	Reviewer	No	3
	Journal of General Internal Medicine	EB	Member, Editorial Board	No	3
	Medical Care	EB	Co-Editor-in-Chief	No	3,5
	Houston VA Medical Center	EC	Staff Physician, General Medicine Section	Yes	4
	Houston Veterans Affairs Medical Center	EC	Deputy Associate Chief of Staff for Research and Development	Yes	1,2,3,4
	The University of Texas School of Public Health	EC	Adjunct Associate Professor, Health Services Organizations	No	4,5
	Houston Center for Quality of Care and Utilization Studies	EC	Director	Yes	1,2,4,5
	Baylor College of Medicine	EC	Tenured Professor of Medicine and Medical Ethics	No	4,5
	Veterans Health Administration	VAN	Member, National Practice Advisory Board	Yes	2
	VA HSR&D Service	VAN	Member, Liason Committee, VA HSR&D and VISNs	Yes	1,2,5
	VA Cooperative Study in Health Services #484	VAR	Member, Planning Committee	Yes	2
R. Beyth MD MS	American College of Physicians	AS	Member	No	5
	American Geriatrics Society	AS	Member	No	5
	Society of General Internal	AS	Member	No	5
	The Steering Committee for the Anticoagulation - Thromboembolism Research Consortium (AT-RC), The Society of General Internal	AS	Chief Operations Officer	No	3
	American Journal of Cardiology	EB	Reviewer	No	3

Name	Organization	Org Type*	Role	VA Sponsored	VA Contribution**
R. Beyth MD MS	Medical Care	EB	Reviewer	No	3
	Drugs and Aging	EB	Reviewer	No	3
	Annals of Internal Medicine	EB	Reviewer	No	3
	American Journal of Managed Care	EB	Reviewer	No	3
	Journal of General Internal Medicine	EB	Reviewer	No	3
	American Journal of Medicine	EB	Reviewer	No	3
	Houston VAMC	EC	Staff Physician, General Medicine Service	Yes	2
	Baylor College of Medicine	EC	Assistant Professor of Medicine	No	4,5
B. Brody PhD	Houston VAMC	EC	Staff Physician, General Medicine Consultation Service	Yes	4
	NASA	NB	Chair, NASA Bioethics Policy Task Force	No	2
M. Byrne PhD	NIH	NB	Member, Data and Safety Monitoring Boards	No	3
	The Lancet	AS	Reviewer	No	5
	Association for Health Services Research	AS	Member	No	5
	International Health Economics Association	AS	Member	No	5
	American Economics Association	AS	Member	No	5
	Medical Care	AS	Reviewer	No	5
	Houston Center for Quality of Care and Utilization Studies	EC	Assistant Director for Education	Yes	1,3,4
T. Collins MD MPH	VA CHF QUERI	VAN	Member	Yes	2
	American College of Physicians	AS	Member	No	5
	Society of General Internal	AS	Member	No	5
	American Medical Association	AS	Member	No	5
K. Cook PhD MA	American Psychology Association	AS	Member	No	3,5
	Division of Evaluation, Measurement & Statistics				
	Sigma Xi Scientific Research	AS	Board Representative	No	4
	National Council on Measurement in Education	AS	Member	No	5
	Journal of Applied Measurement	RG	Reviewer	No	3,5
	American Educational Research Association	RG	Reviewer, Rasch Special Interest Group	No	3,5
A. Deswal MD	Medical Care	RG	Reviewer	No	3,5
	VA CHF QUERI	EC	Member , Core Director for New Research	No	2,5
N. Dunn PhD	Houston Psychological Society	AS	Member	No	5

Name	Organization	Org Type*	Role	VA Sponsored	VA Contribution**
N. Dunn PhD	Association for the Advancement of Behavior Therapy	AS	Member	No	5
	Gerontological Society of America	AS	Member	No	5
	International Society for Traumatic Stress Studies	AS	Member	No	5
	American Psychological	AS	Member	No	4
	University of Houston, Dept. of Psychology	RG	Dissertation Committee member	No	4
	Association of VA Psychologist Leaders	VAN	Member	Yes	5
	VA Quality Enhancement Research Initiative (QUERI)	VAN	Member, Executive Committee on Mental Health	Yes	1,2,5
	Houston VAMC	VAR	Member, Internship Training Committee Mental Health Care	Yes	4
	VA South Central MIRECC	VAR	Co-Director, VA Special Fellowship in Advanced Psychiatry and Psychology	Yes	4,5
	VA South Central MIRECC	VAR	Member, PTSD Research Group	Yes	1,5
	VA South Central MIRECC	VAR	Faculty	Yes	1,5
H. El-Serag MD MPH	American College of Gastroenterology	AS	Member	No	6
	American College of Physicians	AS	Member	No	6
	American Gastroenterology Association	AS	Member	No	6
	American Association for Study of Liver Disease	AS	Member	No	6
	Evidence Based Gastroenterology	EB	Reviewer	No	3
	American Society for Gastrointestinal Endoscopy Research Committee	EB	Reviewer	No	6
	Clinical Gastroenterology	RG	Reviewer	No	3
	Annals of Internal Medicine	RG	Reviewer	No	3
	American Journal of Gastroenterology	RG	Reviewer	No	3
	Gastroenterology	RG	Reviewer	No	3
	American College of Physicians	AS	Member	No	5
H. Gordon MD SB	Society of General Internal	AS	Member	No	5
	Veterans Administration	VAN	Millenium Rainbow Force/Risk Stratification Task Force	Yes	6
	HVAMC	VAR	DSS Clinical Steering Committee	Yes	6
	HVAMC	VAR	VA Research Information Resources Subcommittee	Yes	4
A. Greisinger PhD	American Public Health Association	AS	member	No	5

Name	Organization	Org Type*	Role	VA Sponsored	VA Contribution**
A. Greisinger PhD	Multinational Association of Supportive Care in Cancer	AS	Member	No	5
	Association for Health Services Research	AS	member	No	5
P. Haidet MD MPH	American College of Physicians	AS	member	No	5
	Alpha Omega Alpha	AS	Member	No	5
	American Academy on Physician and Patient	EB	Journal Watch Editor, Medical Educator	No	5
	Society of General Internal	RG	National Meeting Medical Education Workshop Selection Committee	No	5
M. Johnson PhD	Academy of Health Services Research and Health Policy	AS	Member	No	5
	Houston Center for Quality of Care and Utilization Studies	EC	Associate Director	Yes	1,2,4,5
	Houston VA Medical Center	EC	Member, R&D Review Committee	Yes	3,5
	Houston VA Medical Center	EC	Member, Research Service Line Strategic Planning Implementation Team	Yes	3,4,5
	Medical Care	RG	Reviewer	No	3,5
M. Kunik MD MPH	CHF QUERI Executive Committee	VAN	Member	Yes	2,3,5
	American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology	AS	Member, Committee for Recertification in Geriatric Psychiatry	No	6
	Study Section VA HSR&D Nurse Research Initiative	RG	Reviewer	Yes	4,5,6
	Mental Illness Research Education and Clinical Center	VAR	Co-Director, MIRECC Fellowship in Advanced Psychiatry and Psychology	Yes	4,5
	Mental Illness Research Education and Clinical Center (MIRECC)	VAR	Clinical Geropsychiatry Research Core Leader	Yes	1,2,3,4,5
L. McCullough PhD	National Institutes of Health	EC	Member, Data and Safety Monitoring Committee	No	3
	Atrial Fibrillation Follow-up Investigation of Rhythm Management	EC	Member, Data and Safety Monitoring Board	No	3
	National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute	NB	Member, Data and Safety Monitoring Board	No	3
T. Menke PhD	VA Health Economics Resource Center	EC	Expert Panel Member	Yes	1,4,5,6
	VA Executive Committee HIV-QUERI	EC	Member	Yes	1
	Tampa VAMC	EC	Consultant	Yes	5
	Health Services Research	EC	Reviewer	No	1,5
	Journal of General Internal Medicine	RG	Reviewer	No	3

Name	Organization	Org Type*	Role	VA Sponsored	VA Contribution**
T. Menke PhD	AHRQ-Health Care Research Training Study Section	RG	Member	No	3,5
	Medical Care	RG	Reviewer	No	3,5
	Inquiry	RG	Reviewer	No	3,5
	Health Affairs	RG	Reviewer	No	3
	Annals of Internal Medicine	RG	Reviewer	No	3
	The American Journal of Managed Care	RG	Reviewer	No	3
R. Morgan PhD	Houston VAMC	VAR	Reviewer	Yes	3,5
	Academy of Health Services Research	AS	Member	No	5
	American Public Health Association	AS	Member	No	5
	National Technical Advisory Board for VA/Medicare Data Project	EC		Yes	2,3
	Journal of Traumatic Stress	RG	Reviewer	No	3
	Journal of Chronic Fatigue Syndrome	RG	Reviewer	No	3
K. O'Malley PhD	American Journal of Managed Care	RG	Reviewer	No	3
	Baylor College of Medicine	AS	Assistant Professor	No	2,3,5
	Society of Clinical Trials	AS	Member	No	5
	American Psychological Association Division 38 Health Psychology Special Interest Group	AS	Member	No	5
	American Psychological Association Division 5 Measurement Special Interest	AS	Member	No	5
	American Psychological	AS	Member	No	5
	National Institutes of Health Placebo Workshop	CL	Panelist	No	3,5
	Medical Care	EB	Reviewer	No	4,5
	Psychological Methods	EB	Reviewer	No	4,5
	Houston Center for Quality Control of Care and Utilization Studies	VAR	Research Health Science	Yes	2,3,4,5
D. Paterniti PhD	Department of Veterans Affairs	VAR	Research Health Science	Yes	2,3,4,5
	Society for the Study of Social Problems	AS	Member	No	5
	American Sociological Association	AS	Roundtable Organizer/Presider	No	4
	Society for the Study of Symbolic Interaction	AS	Member	No	5
	Pacific Sociological Association	AS	Member	No	5
	Pacific Sociological Association	AS	Presidential Panel Organizer	No	4

Name	Organization	Org Type*	Role	VA Sponsored	VA Contribution**
D. Paterniti PhD	American Sociological Association	AS	Special Section Memberships: Medical Sociology, Social Psychology, Sociology of Emotions	No	5
	American Sociological Association	AS	Presidential Panel Organizer/Presider	No	4
	American Sociological Association	AS	Elected council member, Medical Sociology Section	No	3
	Rice University	RG	Honors Thesis Committee Member	No	4
	Social Problems	RG	Reviewer	No	5
	Social Science and Medicine	RG	Reviewer	No	5
	Society for the Study of Symbolic Interaction	RG	Committee Member: Mead Award - Recognition of Lifetime Achievement in Social Psychology	No	6
	Yale University	RG	Member, Dissertation Committee: Sociology of the Body and Work	No	4
	Medical Care	RG	Reviewer	No	5
	American Sociological Association	RG	Committee Chair: Medical Sociology Dissertation Award	No	3
	Department of Veteran Affairs	VAN	Member of Advisory Panel, Colon Cancer QUERI	Yes	1
	Texas Medical Center	VAR	News Article Expert	Yes	2,3
	HVAMC	VAR	Satratgeic Planning Committee	Yes	4
L. Petersen MD MPH	Society of General Internal	AS	Chair, Abstract Review Committee, Annual Scientific	No	5
	Society of General Internal	AS	Research Committee	No	5
	VA Quality Enhancement Research Initiative	VAN	Executive Committee on Ischemic Heart Disease	Yes	1,2,5
N. Petersen PhD	Congestive Heart Failure Quality Enhancement Research Initiative Executive Committee	EC	Member	Yes	3,5
	American Heart Association	RG	Member, Peer Review Group	No	3,5
	Annals of Internal Medicine	RG	Reviewer	No	3
	Medical Care	RG	Reviewer	No	3
	Quality Enhancement Research Initiative Data Issues Workgroup	VAN	Member	Yes	5
L. Rabeneck MD MPH	American Gastroenterological Association	AS	Chair, Abstract Review Committee (Dyspepsia), Annual Scientific Meeting	No	3
	American Gastroenterological Association	AS	Teaching Faculty, Academic Skills Workshop Training Initiative for Junior Faculty in Gastroenterology	No	5
	American Gastroenterological Association	AS	Member, Clinical Practice Program Committee	No	5

Name	Organization	Org Type*	Role	VA Sponsored	VA Contribution**
L. Rabeneck MD MPH	American College of Gastroenterology	AS	Member, Board of Trustees	No	3,5
	Baylor College of Medicine	EC	Tenured Associate Professor of Medicine	No	4
	The Journal of the American Medical Association	RG	Reviewer	No	3
	New England Journal of Medicine	RG	Reviewer	No	3
	Medical Care	RG	Reviewer	No	3
	Journal of Clinical Epidemiology	RG	Reviewer	No	3
	Gastrointestinal Endoscopy	RG	Reviewer	No	3
	Annals of Internal Medicine	RG	Reviewer	No	3
	American Journal of Gastroenterology	RG	Reviewer	No	3
	Gastroenterology	RG	Member, Editorial Board	No	3
A. Snow PhD	Psychologists in Long Term Care	AS	Research Chair	No	6
	Journal of Geriatric Psychiatry and Neurology	RG	Ad-hoc reviewer	No	6
	Health Science Research and Development	VAN	Abstract reviewer, 19th Annual Meeting	Yes	5
J. Soucek PhD	Society for Clinical Trials	AS	Member	No	5
	American Statistical Association	AS	Member	No	5
	International Biometrics Society (ENAR)	AS	Member	No	5
	Baylor College of Medicine	EC	Assistant Professor, Department of Medicine	No	4
	Journal of Clinical Outcomes Management	RG	Reviewer	No	3
	Journal of the American Medical Association	RG	Reviewer	No	3
	Annals of Epidemiology	RG	Reviewer	No	3
	National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine, Data and Safety Monitoring Board	RG	Reviewer	No	3
M. Suarez-Almazor MD PhD	VA HSR&D	VAR	Statistical mentor for post-doctoral fellows and BCM faculty	Yes	4,5
	International Society for Health Technology Assessment	AS	Member	No	6
	Canadian Rheumatology	AS	Member	No	6
	American College of Rheumatology	AS	Member	No	6
	Association for Health Services Research	AS	Member	No	5
N. Wray MD MPH	Society of General Internal	AS	Member	No	5

Name	Organization	Org Type*	Role	VA Sponsored	VA Contribution**
N. Wray MD MPH	Baylor College of Medicine	AS	Member, Faculty Committee on Awards	No	6
	Baylor College of Medicine	AS	Member, Dept. of Medicine Executive Faculty Committee	No	6
	American Public Health Association	AS	Member	No	5
	Baylor College of Medicine	CL	Member, Full-time Faculty Promotions Committee	No	6
	Texas Department of Aging	EC	Governor appointed Member of the Board	No	5
	VA Health Services and Research and Development National Advisory Group	EC	Member	Yes	3,5
	National Advisory Council for the Agency for Health Care Policy, Research and Evaluation	NB	Member	No	3,5
	Annals of Internal Medicine	RG	Reviewer	No	3
	Journal of General Internal Medicine	RG	Reviewer	No	3
	Medical Care	RG	Reviewer	No	3
	Archives of Internal Medicine	RG	Reviewer	No	3
	Department of Veterans Affairs Office of Quality Management, National Database Design	VAN	Scientific Consultant	Yes	2
	Department of Veterans Affairs, A Randomized Controlled Trial of Radical Prostatectomy versus Watchful Waiting in Patients with Clinically Localized Carcinoma of the Prostate	VAN	Data Monitoring Board	Yes	2
	Houston VA Medical Center	VAR	Medical Staff Leadership Committee	Yes	6
	QUERI Research and Methodology Committee	VAR	Member	Yes	3

* VHA National Committee (VAN), VA Regional/Network Committee (VAR), Academic Society (AS), Consensus Conference or Clinical Guidelines Development Committee (CL), Study Section or other Research Review Group (RG), Editorial Board (EB), Executive or Advisory Committee for a Research Program or National Study (EC), National Policy Board (NB)

** (1) Setting a VA research agenda, (2) oversight of a VA research product, national policy related to patient care, (3) oversight of a research product with national importance, (4) input to training of VA staff or potential researchers, (5) input to the general area of health services research, (6) national leadership of a clinical and/or academic program.

7 Training Activities

The scope of the Houston Center's training activity has increased significantly over the last years. Dr. Margaret Byrne was the Assistant Director for Education Programs for FY01. In addition to the post-doctoral fellowship program, the training mission of the Section includes: MIRECC fellows training, clinical fellows training, mentoring of medical students, residents, master's level and undergraduate students in a variety of disciplines, emphasis on training of and collaboration with minority students and faculty, increased VA and non-VA career development awards and fellowships, and institutional training grants. These efforts are described below. The post-doctoral program design is the blueprint for many of the other programs, and so will be described at greater length.

Office of Academic Affiliations-funded Post-doctoral Program

The Center's post-doctoral training program is designed to create an environment in which post-doctoral fellows can mature into independent health services researchers capable of and interested in pursuing research that will contribute to the ability of the Department of Veterans Affairs to fulfill its health care mission. At the Center, trainees work closely with a mentoring team. This team includes a primary advisor, an established researcher with common research interests, and one or two other researchers with methodological or other skills important for the trainees' progress. Established researchers play a role in ensuring knowledge is advanced, not merely exchanged. Post-doctoral fellows are included in all activities of the research team leader, in accordance with the fellowship's purpose of producing independent health services researchers. In addition, a bi-weekly New Faculty/Post-Doctoral Fellow seminar series provides introductory information on the Center's procedures, the US and VA health care systems, academic medicine and career advancement guidelines, and topics in health services research.

Since 1994, ten trainees have entered the fellowship program. Many have had research that was completed during the fellowship period published in refereed journals. Three of the fellows were subsequently recruited as Center research team leaders when their fellowship was completed (Brian Giesler PhD, Karon Cook PhD, and James Stacks PhD). Several others have been appointed to Assistant Professor positions at various universities.

In late FY00, Dr. Julie Aniol began the first year of a fellowship position. Dr. Aniol is a clinical psychologist who is interested in economic aspects of mental health interventions and treatment. In July 2001, Jessica Davila PhD began her appointment as an OAA funded fellow. Dr. Davila is an epidemiologist whose interests include access to care issues, particularly for people living in rural areas with few health care resources, hospice use, and Medicare-VA dual eligibility and health care use.

Other Training Programs and Activities

In FY01, the Center became affiliated with the South Central Mental Illness Research Education and Clinical Center (MIRECC) Special Fellowship in Advanced Psychiatry and Psychology. Center Investigators, Drs. Kunik and Dunn are the Co-directors of this fellowship, which was funded in FY01. The overarching goal of the fellowship program is to train future VA leaders for research careers in a rapidly evolving health care arena, by providing a firm foundation in mental health research, education, and clinical care. The fellowship will annually provide a 2-year position for a psychiatry fellow and psychology fellow. Within this overall context, the fellowship will offer two specialty tracks, one in mental health services research and one in neuroimaging/neuropsychology. The goal of the mental health services track is to train researchers who are well versed in the issues of access, utilization, outcomes, and effectiveness across a broad spectrum of mental health disorders. In FY02, Serena Chu, who received a PhD in counseling psychology, will start the fellowship and will be integrated into the Center's educational activities. Her interest is in mental healthcare disparities among ethnic minorities.

In FY01, the Houston Center provided facilities, research support and mentoring in the training of two clinical fellows: Dr. Drew Helmer and Dr. LeChauncy Woodard. Both were funded through a training grant held by Dr. David Hyman at Baylor College of Medicine. Both fellows are interested in careers as health services researchers. These fellows participated in all aspects of our post-doctoral training program and are being mentored by Center faculty. Dr. Helmer is currently working at the VA hospital in East Orange, New Jersey.

During the past fiscal year, individual faculty at the center have mentored seven medical students and six residents from Baylor College of Medicine who have done research electives at our center. In addition, one post-doctoral student, five pre-doctoral students, five undergraduates and one intern in psychology from the University of Houston have worked at our center for research electives. Five students from the University of Texas School of Public Health have been mentored in their master's theses by faculty at the Center. Finally, the Center is a primary site for the University of Texas School of Public Health internships, and in FY 2001, six students chose the Center as a preceptor site.

In FY01, as in the previous year, Houston Center received applications and queries concerning pre-doctoral training positions. Because we do not have a funded position for pre-doctoral students, we cannot provide monetary support for these students unless they are eligible for minority or other supplemental funding. For those students who are not eligible for these funds, we are exploring non-funded avenues of collaboration. We hope to provide training and mentoring to several pre-doctoral students over the coming year.

Collaborative research and methodological mentoring began between faculty at Texas Southern University, a Historically Black College, and faculty at the Center. Dr. Nora Osemene, under the mentoring of Dr. Robert Morgan of the Houston Center, applied for and was awarded a one year VA Minority Supplement Grant. Dr. Osemene will participate in Dr. Morgan's VA funded study entitled "Medicare HMO Enrollment and VA Use by Minority and Low Income Veterans", and is being mentored in health services research by several Center faculty members.

Through the IDEAL core of the newly funded research on racial variations in patient-doctor communication, opportunities for training pre- and post-doctoral minority students are also being pursued.

Accomplishments of Center's Current Post-doctoral Fellow

In addition to participating in the training program at the Center, Dr. Aniol has attended classes in health economics at the University of Texas School of Public Health to strengthen her understanding of health economics. Currently she is attending a class in field epidemiology at the same institution. At the February 2001 Annual Meeting of the VA HSR&D Centers, Dr. Aniol's poster, entitled "Assessing the effects of integrated care on medical cost savings in VA and non-VA mental health patients" received an award of Highest Scientific Merit in the Post-Doctoral Poster competition. Dr. Aniol is a key participant on several ongoing and pending research projects in the Center, and will submit her own grant proposal "Identifying workplace-based markers for undiagnosed mental health disorders in employees" to the NIMH in February 2002.

Significant Impacts of Training Programs

The Center's OAA-funded and other training programs' most significant impact is in training highly skilled independent health services researchers. This research informs both the VA system as a whole and individual health care providers in how health care in the VA can be the best in the country and efficiently provided. The Center's programs are designed to train new investigators whose research will advance knowledge and practice in the determinants of health services use, quality assessment, outcome measures of quality and effectiveness, and patient-centered care. A distinguishing feature of the Center's research is the focus, not just on quality or utilization alone, but on the relation between quality of care and utilization of health services. Instilling commitment to research that is not only high quality, but also can be used to improve health care for veterans and all people, is a primary objective of the Center's training programs.

Enhancement of Training Programs

The new proposal to provide health and life insurance benefits to postdoctoral fellows will enhance the ability of the Center to attract the most highly qualified candidates. Without such benefits, many promising researchers look elsewhere for post-doctoral training or initial faculty positions.

A yearly or biannual meeting of Directors of OAA-funded programs in Health Services Research would be a valuable mechanism to raise the overall quality of the VA's postdoctoral training programs. Directors

would have the opportunity to exchange information on training programs, recruitment, postdoctoral curriculum, and other aspects of the OAA training programs. Best practices and pitfalls could be shared and experience from one program disseminated to the others. Our Center believes this would greatly enhance the training programs at all of the Centers.

7.1 Trainee Listing

Post-Doctoral Fellow Trainee(s) - COE Houston, TX

Aniol, Julie PhD

Fellow Type (original) : **HSR&D**
Project Agency ID(s) Assigned: **TPP 33-009**
Title Of Original Training Program: **Associated Health Professions Post-Doctoral Fellowship Program**
Title Of Dissertation: **Cost savings of Mental Health Interventions: A Meta-Analytic Review of the Cost Offset Effect**

Training Start Date: **7/2000** Training End Date: **7/2002**
Terminal Degree: **PhD** Terminal Degree Date: **5/2000**
Number of Peer-Reviewed Publications (since initiation of the traineeship):
Number of "Other" Publications (since initiation of the traineeship):
Number of Funded Research Projects as PI or Co-Inv (since initiation of the traineeship): **1**
Post Graduation VA Employment Facility/Site ID: **580** Hospital Name: **Houston VA Medical Center**
Current Employer Name and **VA Medical Center, Houston, TX**
Current Employment Position Title: **Post-doctoral Fellow**

Post-Doctoral Fellow Trainee(s) - COE Houston, TX

Davila, Jessica PhD MS BS

Fellow Type (original) : **HSR&D**
Project Agency ID(s) Assigned:
Title Of Original Training Program: **Associated Health Professions Post-Doctoral Fellowship Program**
Title Of Dissertation: **Evaluating treatment variation for early stage breast cancer patients in Iowa: Physician characteristics and patient variables that influence surgical referral decisions**

Training Start Date: **7/2001** Training End Date: **7/2002**
Terminal Degree: **PhD** Terminal Degree Date: **5/2001**
Number of Peer-Reviewed Publications (since initiation of the traineeship):
Number of "Other" Publications (since initiation of the traineeship):
Number of Funded Research Projects as PI or Co-Inv (since initiation of the traineeship): **4**
Post Graduation VA Employment Facility/Site ID: **580** Hospital Name: **Houston VA Medical Center**
Current Employer Name and **VA Medical Center, Houston, TX**
Current Employment Position Title: **Post-doctoral Fellow**